



**SKEENA-QUEEN CHARLOTTE REGIONAL DISTRICT**  
**REGULAR BOARD MEETING**  
**100 1<sup>st</sup> Avenue East, Prince Rupert, BC**  
**Friday, January 24, 2013**  
**7:00 p.m.**  
**AMENDED AGENDA**

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- 1. CALL TO ORDER**
- 2. CONSIDERATION OF AGENDA (additions/deletions)**
- 3. BOARD MINUTES & BUSINESS ARISING FROM MINUTES**

3.1	Minutes of the Statutory Meeting of the Skeena-Queen Charlotte Regional District (SQCRD) Board held December 13, 2013	Pg 1-2
3.2	Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Skeena-Queen Charlotte Regional District (SQCRD) Board held December 13, 2013	Pg 3-16
3.3	Rise and Report – December 13, 2013 <i>(to be read by Chair – no motion required)</i>	Verbal
MOVED by Director Ashley, SECONDED by Director Racz, that the following Board appointments be made for 2014:		
1.	Haida Gwaii Museum	Director Michael Racz
2.	Yellowhead Hwy. Association	Director Nelson Kinney Alternate Anna Ashley
3.	Vancouver Is. Regional Library	Director Evan Putterill
4.	Prince Rupert Regional Archives	Director Nelson Kinney Alternate Anna Ashley
5.	Haida Gwaii Recreation Commission	Director Ian Gould
6.	Ground Fish Association	Director Des Nobels
7.	Coastal Community Network	Director Des Nobels
8.	Municipal Insurance Association	Director Karl Bergman
9.	Municipal Finance Authority	Director Des Nobels Alternate Dan Franzen
10.	BC Ferries Advisory Committee	Director Evan Putterill Alternate Michael Racz
11.	C2C Rural Policing Working Group	Director Des Nobels
12.	Marine Planning Advisory Committee (mainland)	Director Karl Bergman

13. Marine Planning Advisory Committee	Director Ian Gould	
14. Fisheries & Oceans - Hecate Strait/Queen Charlotte Sound Glass Sponge Reefs	Director Des Nobels	
15. Bowie Seamount Advisory Board	Director Michael Racz	
16. Haida Gwaii Tripartite	Director Evan Putterill Alternate Carol Kulesha	
17. Northern Development Initiative Trust	Director Michael Raz	
18. Haida Gwaii Clean Energy	Director Michael Racz Alternate Dan Robertson	
19. North Central Local Gov't Association	Mayor Dave MacDonald	
AND THAT the following 2014 Board Appointments be referred to the January 24, 2014 Skeena-Queen Charlotte Regional District In-Camera Board meeting:		
i. Port Edward Historical Society (North Pacific Cannery);		
ii. Mainland Waste Management.		

#### 4. STANDING COMMITTEE/COMMISSION MINUTES – BUSINESS ARISING

4.1	Haida Gwaii Regional Recreation Commission – October 2013 Third Quarter Commission Meeting	Pg 17-19
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#### 5. DELEGATIONS

5.1	J. Keighley – BC Ferry Coalition, Sunshine Coast <u>Add: Page 34a-34a2</u>	Pg 20-34A2
5.2	P. Levy, Lead Negotiator & Senior Regulatory Advisor – Nexen Energy ULC – Aurora LNG	Pg 34b-34h

#### 6. FINANCE

6.1	J. Musgrave, Administrative Assistant - Cheques payable over \$5,000 for December, 2013	Pg 35
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**7. CORRESPONDENCE**

7.1	Ministry of Community, Sport and Cultural Development – Union of British Columbia Municipalities Convention	Pg 36-39
7.2	Ministry of Community, Sport and Cultural Development – Expense Limits on Local Elections Discussion Paper	Pg 40-58
7.3	The Village of Port Clements – Request for Letter of Support	Pg 59
7.4	Ministry of Environment – Provincial and Local Governments Working Together to Protect Biodiversity	Pg 60-64
7.5	Premier Christy Clark – BC Ferries Service	Pg 65
<b>Add:</b> <b>7.6</b>	Province of BC Legislative Assembly – Local Elections Campaign Financing Act	Pg 65a-65b

**8. REPORTS / RESOLUTIONS**

8.1	J. Fraser, Deputy Treasurer – Board Resolution Amendment – November 22, 2013	Pg 66-68
8.2	J. Merrick, Chief Administrative Officer – Updated 2014 Board Schedule	Pg 69-70
8.3	D. Fish, Deputy Corporate Officer – NCLGA Resolution Amendment	Pg 71-72
8.4	L. Neville – December 2013 Haida Gwaii Recreation Coordinator's Report	Pg 73-77
8.5	J. Merrick, CAO – Jungle Beach Update	Pg 78

**9. BYLAWS**

9.1	Bylaw No. 560, 2013 – Being a bylaw to amend the Graham Island Interim Zoning Bylaw No. 192, 1993 <i>Prior to being given 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup> readings and adoption</i>	Pg 79-80
9.2	Bylaw No. 574, 2014 – Being a bylaw to authorize the entering into of an agreement respecting financing between the Skeena-Queen Charlotte Regional District and the Municipal Finance Authority of British Columbia <i>Prior to being given 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup> readings and adoption</i>	Pg 81-85
9.3	Bylaw No. 575, 2014 – Being a bylaw to repeal bylaws establishing sewer and water works reserve funds for the community of Queen Charlotte <i>Prior to being given 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup> readings and adoption</i>	Pg 86
9.4	Bylaw No. 576, 2014 – Being a bylaw to repeal bylaws establishing committees and commissions of the Skeena-Queen Charlotte Regional District	Pg 87

<i>Prior to being given 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup> readings and adoption</i>	
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**10. LAND REFERRALS / PLANNING** *(Voting restricted to Electoral Area Directors)*

10.1	J. Merrick, CAO – Rezoning of Fraction NE ¼ of DL 830A, Except Plan 11017, Parcel Identifier 015-633-012, 16320 Tow Hill Road (G. Schweers)	Pg 88-90
<b>Add:</b>		
<b>10.2</b>	J. Skogstad, Planning Consultant – Medical Marihuana Facilities	Pg 90a-90g

**11. NEW BUSINESS**

11.1	Directors' Reports	-----
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**12. OLD BUSINESS**

12.1	B. Denton – Highway 16 Maintenance <b>Add:</b> Page 92a	Pg 91-92a
12.2	J. Merrick, CAO – Strategic Priorities Tracking 2014	Pg 93-94
<b>Add:</b>		
<b>12.3</b>	J. Merrick, CAO – BC Ferries	Verbal

**13. PUBLIC INPUT****14. IN-CAMERA**

That the public be excluded from the meeting according to section 90(1)(a) and (g) of the <i>Community Charter</i> – “personal information about an identifiable individual...” and “litigation or potential litigation affecting the municipality.”	
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**15. ADJOURNMENT****NEXT MEETING:**

**SQCRD Board Meeting via Teleconference  
Friday, February 21, 2014  
7:00 p.m.**



## SKEENA-QUEEN CHARLOTTE REGIONAL DISTRICT

**MINUTES** of the Statutory Meeting of the Board of Directors of the Skeena-Queen Charlotte Regional District (SQCRD) held at the Regional District office in Prince Rupert, BC on Friday, December 13, 2013.

### PRESENT

### PRIOR TO ADOPTION

Chair	B. Pages, Village of Masset
Vice Chair	D. Nobels, Electoral Area A
Directors	N. Kinney, City of Prince Rupert A. Ashley, City of Prince Rupert D. Franzen, District of Port Edward C. Kulesha, Village of Queen Charlotte I. Gould, Village of Port Clements K. Bergman, Electoral Area C M. Racz, Electoral Area D E. Putterill, Electoral Area E
Staff	J. Merrick, Chief Administrative Officer J. Robb, Treasurer D. Fish, Deputy Corporate Officer – “ <i>Presiding</i> ”
Public	0
Media	1

### 1. CALL TO ORDER 7:00 PM

The Deputy Corporate Officer assumed the Chair and called the Board meeting to order.

### 2. ELECTION OF THE CHAIR

The Deputy Corporate Officer called for nominations for the position of Chair of the Regional District and Regional Hospital District Boards for 2014.

Director Racz nominated Director Pages; Director Pages accepted the nomination.

Nominations were called for a second time.

Nominations were called for a third and final time.

There being no further nominations, nominations were closed.

**Director Pages was declared Chair of the Skeena-Queen Charlotte Regional District and Regional Hospital District Boards for 2014 by acclamation.**

**3. ELECTION OF THE VICE CHAIR**

The Deputy Corporate Officer called for nominations for the position of Vice Chair of the Regional District and Regional Hospital District Boards for 2014.

Director Kinney nominated Director Nobels; Director Nobels accepted the nomination.

Nominations were called for a second time.

Nominations were called for a third and final time.

There being no further nominations, nominations were closed.

**Director Nobels was declared Vice Chair of the Skeena-Queen Charlotte Regional District and Regional Hospital District Boards for 2014 by acclamation.**

**4. ADDRESS BY NEWLY ELECTED CHAIR & VICE CHAIR**

Chair Pages and Vice Chair Nobels thanked the Board for their support.

**5. ADJOURNMENT**

MOVED by Director Bergman, SECONDED by Director Ashley, that the Meeting be adjourned at 7:04 p.m.

**403-2013**

**CARRIED**

Approved and adopted:

Certified correct:

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B. Pages  
Chair

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J. Merrick  
Chief Administrative Officer



## SKEENA-QUEEN CHARLOTTE REGIONAL DISTRICT

**MINUTES** of the Regular Meeting of the Board of Directors of the Skeena-Queen Charlotte Regional District (SQCRD) held at the Regional District office in Prince Rupert on Friday, December 13, 2013.

### PRESENT

Chair	B. Pages, Village of Masset	<b><u>PRIOR TO ADOPTION</u></b>
Vice Chair	D. Nobels, Electoral Area A	
Directors	A. Ashley, City of Prince Rupert N. Kinney, City of Prince Rupert D. Franzen, District of Port Edward I. Gould, Village of Port Clements C. Kulesha, Village of Queen Charlotte K. Bergman, Electoral Area C M. Racz, Electoral Area D E. Putterill, Electoral Area E	
Staff:	J. Merrick, Chief Administrative Officer J. Robb, Treasurer D. Fish, Deputy Corporate Officer	
Public:	0	
Media:	1	

### 1. CALL TO ORDER 7:07 p.m.

### 2. AGENDA

- 2.1 MOVED by Director Nobels, SECONDED by Director Gould, that the agenda be adopted as amended, with the addition of the following:

11.3 BC Ferries

**404-2013**

**CARRIED**

### 3. MINUTES & BUSINESS ARISING FROM MINUTES

- 3.1 SQCRD Regular Board Meeting – November 22, 2013 Minutes

MOVED by Director Franzen, SECONDED by Director Racz, that the minutes of the November 22, 2013 SQCRD Regular Board meeting be adopted as presented.

**405-2013**

**CARRIED**

**4. STANDING COMMITTEE/COMMISSION MINUTES – BUSINESS ARISING**

- 4.1 Moresby Island Management Committee (MIMC) – Meeting Minutes of November 14, 2013

MOVED by Director Putterill, SECONDED by Director Nobels, that the minutes of the November 14, 2013 Moresby Island Management Committee meeting be received as presented.

**406-2013**

**CARRIED**

**5. DELEGATIONS**

- 5.1 R. Bedard, Vice President – Port Edward Historical Society

Ron Bedard, Vice President of the Port Edward Historical Society, addressed the Board with the 2013 year-end update on the North Pacific Cannery. Mr. Bedard, on behalf of the Port Edward Historical Society, presented the Board with a cheque valued at \$6,300 as partial repayment of the outstanding loan.

The Chair thanked Mr. Bedard for his presentation.

**6. FINANCE**

- 6.1 J. Musgrave, Administrative Assistant - Cheques Payable over \$5,000 for November, 2013

MOVED by Director Franzen, SECONDED by Director Kinney, that the staff report on Cheques Payable over \$5,000 issued by the Skeena-Queen Charlotte Regional District for November, 2013 be received and filed.

**407-2013**

**CARRIED**

**7. CORRESPONDENCE**

- 7.1 Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure – Thank You

MOVED by Director Nobels, SECONDED by Director Gould, that the correspondence from the Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure thanking the Board be received.

**408-2013**

**CARRIED**



**7.2 City of Prince Rupert – Proposal to Extend Municipal Boundaries**

MOVED by Director Nobels, SECONDED by Director Putterill, that the correspondence from the City of Prince Rupert in regards to the municipal boundary extension proposal be received;

AND THAT a letter be sent to the City of Prince Rupert concurring with its recent application to extend the municipal boundaries to include DL 444, with the proviso that the Regional District still has concerns in regard to any future expansion as originally proposed in their letter of June 28<sup>th</sup>, 2013.

**409-2013****CARRIED****8. REPORTS – RESOLUTIONS****8.1 J. Merrick, Chief Administrative Officer – Directors – Reimbursement of Travel and Other Expenses Policy**

MOVED by Director Ashley, SECONDED by Director Bergman, that the staff report entitled “Directors – Reimbursement of Travel and Other Expenses” be received.

**410-2013****CARRIED**

MOVED by Director Putterill, SECONDED by Director Nobels that the amendments to the Directors – Reimbursement of Travel and Other Expenses Policy be adopted as amended to include the following changes to the Schedule of Allowable Expenses:

- Item 10: Replace with “Where meals are otherwise provided, the per diem for those meals must be deducted from the per diem;”
- Item 13: Add “Internet connectivity charges.”

**411-2013****CARRIED****8.2 J. Merrick, CAO – Board Policy – Progressive Discipline**

MOVED by Director Nobels, SECONDED by Director Racz, that the staff report entitled “Draft Board Policy – Progressive Discipline” be received.

AND THAT that Skeena-Queen Charlotte Regional District Progressive Discipline Policy be adopted as presented.

**412-2013****CARRIED****8.3 J. Robb, Treasurer – Landfill Closure Reserve Contribution 2013**

MOVED by Director Kinney, SECONDED by Director Putterill, that the staff report entitled “Landfill Closure Reserve Contribution 2013” be received;

AND THAT \$78,991.00 of landfill closure funds from 2011 to 2013 be transferred to the landfill closure reserve fund.

**413-2013****CARRIED**

8.4 D. Fish, Deputy Corporate Officer – Draft Resolutions to North Central Local Government Association

MOVED by Director Nobels, SECONDED by Director Putterill, that the staff report entitled “Draft Resolutions to North Central Local Government Association” be received;

AND THAT the following resolutions be sent to the North Central Local Government Association:

1. BC Assessment Authority

WHEREAS limited and infrequent property sales may not accurately reflect market values in many rural areas of British Columbia;

AND WHEREAS the BC Assessment Authority is legislated to use mandated formulas based on market data when assessing residential properties, and this has historically contributed to significant shifts in the assessed values of properties in some rural communities;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Union of BC Municipalities urge the Provincial Government to provide BC Assessment Authority with more flexibility when assessing properties in rural British Columbia.

2. LNG Projects in Northern British Columbia

WHEREAS the Province is actively supporting the development of Liquefied Natural Gas (LNG) as British Columbia’s future economic driver;

AND WHEREAS multiple proposals and applications for LNG and other large scale industrial projects are creating a drain on the limited resources of many small communities and regional districts;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the NCLGA and UBCM urge the Provincial Government to develop an LNG plan to provide immediate and meaningful assistance to local governments in British Columbia to address the issue.

**414-2013**

**CARRIED**

MOVED by Director Nelson, SECONDED by Director Kinney, that a letter be sent to Canada Post and Transport Canada requesting that the needs of those most severely affected by the introduction of service cuts and community mailboxes, such as senior citizens and the physically and mentally disabled, be taken into greater consideration;

AND FURTHER THAT copies of correspondence be sent to the Member of Parliament and the Member of the Legislative Assembly.

**415-2013**

**CARRIED**

8.5 L. Neville, Haida Gwaii Regional Recreation Coordinator – November 2013 Report

MOVED by Director Nobels, SECONDED by Director Putterill, that the staff report entitled “November 2013 Report” be received and filed.

**416-2013**

**CARRIED**

**9. BYLAWS**

9.1 Bylaw No. 561, 2013 Electoral Area Administration Reserve Fund Establishment

MOVED by Director Kinney, SECONDED by Director Nobels, that “Electoral Area Administration Reserve Fund Establishment, Bylaw No. 561, 2013” be given first reading.

**417-2013**

**CARRIED**

MOVED by Director Kinney, SECONDED by Director Nobels, that “Electoral Area Administration Reserve Fund Establishment, Bylaw No. 561, 2013” be given second reading.

**418-2013**

**CARRIED**

MOVED by Director Kinney, SECONDED by Director Nobels, that “Electoral Area Administration Reserve Fund Establishment, Bylaw No. 561, 2013” be given third reading.

**419-2013**

**CARRIED**

MOVED by Director Nobels, SECONDED by Director Kinney, that “Electoral Area Administration Reserve Fund Establishment, Bylaw No. 561, 2013” be adopted.

**420-2013**

**CARRIED**

9.2 Bylaw No. 562, 2013 Elections Reserve Fund Establishment

MOVED by Director Gould, SECONDED by Director Racz, that “Elections Reserve Fund Establishment, Bylaw No. 562, 2013” be given first reading.

**421-2013**

**CARRIED**

MOVED by Director Gould, SECONDED by Director Racz, that “Elections Reserve Fund Establishment, Bylaw No. 562, 2013” be given second reading.

**422-2013**

**CARRIED**

MOVED by Director Gould, SECONDED by Director Racz, that “Elections Reserve Fund Establishment, Bylaw No. 562, 2013” be given third reading.

**423-2013**

**CARRIED**

MOVED by Director Kinney, SECONDED by Director Gould, that “Elections Reserve Fund Establishment, Bylaw No. 562, 2013” be adopted.

**424-2013**

**CARRIED**

- 9.3 Bylaw No. 563, 2013 Emergency Programming Electoral Areas A and C Reserve Fund Establishment

MOVED by Director Nobels, SECONDED by Director Franzen, that "Emergency Programming Electoral Areas A and C Reserve Fund Establishment, Bylaw No. 563, 2013" be given first reading.

**425-2013**

**CARRIED**

MOVED by Director Nobels, SECONDED by Director Franzen, that "Emergency Programming Electoral Areas A and C Reserve Fund Establishment, Bylaw No. 563, 2013" be given second reading.

**426-2013**

**CARRIED**

MOVED by Director Nobels, SECONDED by Director Franzen, that "Emergency Programming Electoral Areas A and C Reserve Fund Establishment, Bylaw No. 563, 2013" be given third reading.

**427-2013**

**CARRIED**

MOVED by Director Franzen, SECONDED by Director Kinney, that "Emergency Programming Electoral Areas A and C Reserve Fund Establishment, Bylaw No. 563, 2013" be adopted.

**428-2013**

**CARRIED**

- 9.4 Bylaw No. 564, 2013 Emergency Programming Electoral Area D Reserve Fund Establishment

MOVED by Director Racz, SECONDED by Director Kulesha, that "Emergency Programming Electoral Area D Reserve Fund Establishment, Bylaw No. 564, 2013" be given first reading.

**429-2013**

**CARRIED**

MOVED by Director Racz, SECONDED by Director Kulesha, that "Emergency Programming Electoral Area D Reserve Fund Establishment, Bylaw No. 564, 2013" be given second reading.

**430-2013**

**CARRIED**

MOVED by Director Racz, SECONDED by Director Kulesha, that "Emergency Programming Electoral Area D Reserve Fund Establishment, Bylaw No. 564, 2013" be given third reading.

**431-2013**

**CARRIED**

MOVED by Director Kulesha, SECONDED by Director Gould, that "Emergency Programming Electoral Area D Reserve Fund Establishment, Bylaw No. 564, 2013" be adopted.

**432-2013**

**CARRIED**

- 9.5 Bylaw No. 565, 2013 Emergency Programming Electoral Area E Reserve Fund Establishment

MOVED by Director Kulesha, SECONDED by Director Gould, that "Emergency Programming Electoral Area E Reserve Fund Establishment, Bylaw No. 565, 2013" be given first reading.

**433-2013**

**CARRIED**

MOVED by Director Kulesha, SECONDED by Director Gould, that "Emergency Programming Electoral Area E Reserve Fund Establishment, Bylaw No. 565, 2013" be given second reading.

**434-2013**

**CARRIED**

MOVED by Director Kulesha, SECONDED by Director Gould, that "Emergency Programming Electoral Area E Reserve Fund Establishment, Bylaw No. 565, 2013" be given third reading.

**435-2013**

**CARRIED**

MOVED by Director Franzen, SECONDED by Director Nobels, that "Emergency Programming Electoral Area E Reserve Fund Establishment, Bylaw No. 565, 2013" be adopted.

**436-2013**

**CARRIED**

- 9.6 Bylaw No. 566, 2013 General Administration Reserve Fund Establishment

MOVED by Director Gould, SECONDED by Director Putterill, that "General Administration Reserve Fund Establishment, Bylaw No. 566, 2013" be given first reading.

**437-2013**

**CARRIED**

MOVED by Director Gould, SECONDED by Director Putterill, that "General Administration Reserve Fund Establishment, Bylaw No. 566, 2013" be given second reading.

**438-2013**

**CARRIED**

MOVED by Director Gould, SECONDED by Director Putterill, that "General Administration Reserve Fund Establishment, Bylaw No. 566, 2013" be given third reading.

**439-2013**

**CARRIED**

MOVED by Director Franzen, SECONDED by Director Nobels, that "General Administration Reserve Fund Establishment, Bylaw No. 566, 2013" be adopted.

**440-2013**

**CARRIED**

9.7 Bylaw No. 567, 2013 Feasibility Studies Reserve Fund Establishment

MOVED by Director Franzen, SECONDED by Director Ashley, that "Feasibility Studies Reserve Fund Establishment, Bylaw No. 567, 2013" be given first reading.

**441-2013**

**CARRIED**

MOVED by Director Franzen, SECONDED by Director Ashley, that "Feasibility Studies Reserve Fund Establishment, Bylaw No. 567, 2013" be given second reading.

**442-2013**

**CARRIED**

MOVED by Director Franzen, SECONDED by Director Ashley, that "Feasibility Studies Reserve Fund Establishment, Bylaw No. 567, 2013" be given third reading.

**443-2013**

**CARRIED**

MOVED by Director Nobels, SECONDED by Director Kinney, that "Feasibility Studies Reserve Fund Establishment, Bylaw No. 567, 2013" be adopted.

**444-2013**

**CARRIED**

9.8 Bylaw No. 568, 2013 Regional Recycling Reserve Fund Establishment

MOVED by Director Gould, SECONDED by Director Ashley, that "Regional Recycling Reserve Fund Establishment, Bylaw No. 568, 2013" be given first reading.

**445-2013**

**CARRIED**

MOVED by Director Gould, SECONDED by Director Ashley, that "Regional Recycling Reserve Fund Establishment, Bylaw No. 568, 2013" be given second reading.

**446-2013**

**CARRIED**

MOVED by Director Gould, SECONDED by Director Ashley, that "Regional Recycling Reserve Fund Establishment, Bylaw No. 568, 2013" be given third reading.

**447-2013**

**CARRIED**

MOVED by Director Ashley, SECONDED by Director Gould, that "Regional Recycling Reserve Fund Establishment, Bylaw No. 568, 2013" be adopted.

**448-2013**

**CARRIED**

9.9 Bylaw No. 569, 2013 Islands Solid Waste Reserve Fund Establishment

MOVED by Director Nobels, SECONDED by Director Ashley, that "Islands Solid Waste Reserve Fund Establishment, Bylaw No. 569, 2013" be given first reading.

**449-2013**

**CARRIED**

MOVED by Director Nobels, SECONDED by Director Ashley, that "Islands Solid Waste Reserve Fund Establishment, Bylaw No. 569, 2013" be given second reading.

**450-2013**

**CARRIED**

MOVED by Director Nobels, SECONDED by Director Ashley, that "Islands Solid Waste Reserve Fund Establishment, Bylaw No. 569, 2013" be given third reading.

**451-2013**

**CARRIED**

MOVED by Director Kulesha, SECONDED by Director Ashley, that "Islands Solid Waste Reserve Fund Establishment, Bylaw No. 569, 2013" be adopted.

**452-2013**

**CARRIED**

9.10 Bylaw No. 570, 2013 Landfill Closure Reserve Fund Establishment

MOVED by Director Ashley, SECONDED by Director Kinney, that "Landfill Closure Reserve Fund Establishment, Bylaw No. 570, 2013" be given first reading.

**453-2013**

**CARRIED**

MOVED by Director Ashley, SECONDED by Director Kinney, that "Landfill Closure Reserve Fund Establishment, Bylaw No. 570, 2013" be given second reading.

**454-2013**

**CARRIED**

MOVED by Director Ashley, SECONDED by Director Kinney, that "Landfill Closure Reserve Fund Establishment, Bylaw No. 570, 2013" be given third reading.

**455-2013**

**CARRIED**

MOVED by Director Nobels, SECONDED by Director Gould, that "Landfill Closure Reserve Fund Establishment, Bylaw No. 570, 2013" be adopted.

**456-2013**

**CARRIED**

9.11 Bylaw No. 571, 2013 Rural Land Use Planning Reserve Fund Establishment

MOVED by Director Nobels, SECONDED by Director Ashley, that "Rural Land Use Planning Reserve Fund Establishment, Bylaw No. 571, 2013" be given first reading.

**457-2013**

**CARRIED**

MOVED by Director Nobels, SECONDED by Director Ashley, that "Rural Land Use Planning Reserve Fund Establishment, Bylaw No. 571, 2013" be given second reading.

**458-2013**

**CARRIED**

MOVED by Director Nobels, SECONDED by Director Ashley, that "Rural Land Use Planning Reserve Fund Establishment, Bylaw No. 571, 2013" be given third reading.

**459-2013**

**CARRIED**

MOVED by Director Putterill, SECONDED by Director Gould, that "Rural Land Use Planning Reserve Fund Establishment, Bylaw No. 571, 2013" be adopted.

**460-2013**

**CARRIED**

## 9.12 Bylaw No. 572, 2013 Revenue Anticipation Borrowing 2014

MOVED by Director Racz, SECONDED by Director Kulesha, that "Revenue Anticipation Borrowing 2014, Bylaw No. 572, 2013" be given first reading.

**461-2013**

**CARRIED**

MOVED by Director Racz, SECONDED by Director Kulesha, that "Revenue Anticipation Borrowing 2014, Bylaw No. 572, 2013" be given second reading.

**462-2013**

**CARRIED**

MOVED by Director Racz, SECONDED by Director Kulesha, that "Revenue Anticipation Borrowing 2014, Bylaw No. 572, 2013" be given third reading.

**463-2013**

**CARRIED**

MOVED by Director Putterill, SECONDED by Director Kinney, that "Revenue Anticipation Borrowing 2014, Bylaw No. 572, 2013" be adopted.

**464-2013**

**CARRIED**

## 9.13 Bylaw No. 558, 2013 Sandspit Water Regulation

MOVED by Director Gould, SECONDED by Director Ashley, that "Sandspit Water Regulation, Bylaw No. 558, 2013" be given second reading.

**465-2013**

**CARRIED**

MOVED by Director Gould, SECONDED by Director Ashley, that "Sandspit Water Regulation, Bylaw No. 558, 2013" be given third reading.

**466-2013**

**CARRIED**

MOVED by Director Franzen, SECONDED by Director Ashley, that "Sandspit Water Regulation, Bylaw No. 558, 2013" be adopted.

**467-2013**

**CARRIED**

## 9.14 Bylaw No. 573, 2013 Islands Solid Waste Management Regulation, Fees and Charges Amendment Bylaw

MOVED by Director Franzen, SECONDED by Director Gould, that "Islands Solid Waste Management Regulation, Fees and Charges Amendment Bylaw, Bylaw No. 573, 2013" be given first reading.

**468-2013**

**CARRIED**

MOVED by Director Franzen, SECONDED by Director Gould, that "Islands Solid Waste Management Regulation, Fees and Charges Amendment Bylaw, Bylaw No. 573, 2013" be given second reading.

**469-2013**

**CARRIED**



MOVED by Director Franzen, SECONDED by Director Gould, that "Islands Solid Waste Management Regulation, Fees and Charges Amendment Bylaw, Bylaw No. 573, 2013" be given third reading.

**470-2013**

**CARRIED**

MOVED by Director Ashley, SECONDED by Director Racz, that "Islands Solid Waste Management Regulation, Fees and Charges Amendment Bylaw, Bylaw No. 573, 2013" be adopted.

**471-2013**

**CARRIED**

- 9.15 Bylaw No. 270.1, 2013 Mainland Solid Waste Management Local Service Area Amendment

MOVED by Director Ashley, SECONDED by Director Kinney, that "Mainland Solid Waste Management Local Service Area Amendment, Bylaw No. 270.1, 2013" be given first reading.

**472-2013**

**CARRIED**

MOVED by Director Ashley, SECONDED by Director Kinney, that "Mainland Solid Waste Management Local Service Area Amendment, Bylaw No. 270.1, 2013" be given second reading.

**473-2013**

**CARRIED**

MOVED by Director Ashley, SECONDED by Director Kinney, that "Mainland Solid Waste Management Local Service Area Amendment, Bylaw No. 270.1, 2013" be given third reading.

**474-2013**

**CARRIED**

MOVED by Director Franzen, SECONDED by Director Gould, that "Mainland Solid Waste Management Local Service Area Amendment, Bylaw No. 270.1, 2013" be adopted.

**475-2013**

**CARRIED**

- 9.15 Bylaw No. 271.1, 2013 Islands Solid Waste Management Local Service Area Amendment

MOVED by Director Ashley, SECONDED by Director Gould, that "Islands Solid Waste Management Local Service Area Amendment, Bylaw No. 271.1, 2013" be given first reading.

**476-2013**

**CARRIED**

MOVED by Director Ashley, SECONDED by Director Gould, that "Islands Solid Waste Management Local Service Area Amendment, Bylaw No. 271.1, 2013" be given second reading.

**477-2013**

**CARRIED**

MOVED by Director Ashley, SECONDED by Director Gould, that "Islands Solid Waste Management Local Service Area Amendment, Bylaw No. 271.1, 2013" be given third reading.

**478-2013**

**CARRIED**

MOVED by Director Nobels, SECONDED by Director Gould, that "Islands Solid Waste Management Local Service Area Amendment, Bylaw No. 271.1, 2013" be adopted.

**479-2013**

**CARRIED**

**10. LAND REFERRALS/PLANNING**

None.

**11. OLD BUSINESS**

11.1 J. Merrick, CAO – Northern Development Initiative Trust – Internship Program

MOVED by Director Kinney, SECONDED by Director Racz, that the verbal staff report "Northern Development Initiative Trust – Internship Program be received;

AND THAT staff continue to work with Northern Development Initiative Trust and the Province to work toward a planning internship program;

AND FURTHER THAT staff continue to seek additional funding sources for a planning internship position.

**480-2013**

**CARRIED**

11.2 J. Merrick, CAO – 2013/2014 Strategic Priorities December Update

MOVED by Director Kulesha, SECONDED by Director Gould, that the Board Strategic Priorities 2013/14 December Update be received.

**481-2013**

**CARRIED**

11.3 BC Ferries

MOVED by Director Putterill, SECONDED by Director Kulesha, that staff follow up on the Sunshine Coast Regional District BC Ferries protest and provide that information to the Board;

AND THAT Directors decide how they will participate in the BC Ferries issue via email.

**482-2013**

**CARRIED**

MOVED by Director Ashley, SECONDED by Director Racz, that, given a response from the Province, the Board send Chair Pages and Vice Chair Nobels to meet with Provincial dignitaries in regards to the BC Ferries issue.

**483-2013**

**CARRIED**

MOVED by Director Ashley, SECONDED by Director Racz, that, given no response from the Province in regards to the BC Ferries issue, the Board send members to meet with Provincial dignitaries to further discuss the issue and the detrimental effects it has on coastal communities;

AND THAT other concerned parties and stakeholders be notified of any meetings to take place.

**484-2013**

**CARRIED**

## **12. NEW BUSINESS**

Director Franzen – District of Port Edward:

Director Franzen provided the Board with highlights from the District of Port Edward's meeting with the Prince Rupert Airport Society. Director Franzen also spoke to the new CUPE agreement that was made for the District of Port Edward staff.

Director Nobels – Electoral Area A

Director Nobels has been attending various meetings related to Liquefied Natural Gas development projects taking place throughout the region.

Director Gould – Village of Port Clements

Director Gould discussed the upcoming centennial celebrations in the Village of Port Clements.

Director Putterill – Electoral Area E

Director Putterill announced that Sandspit Loggers' Sports Day would be celebrating its 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary in 2014, and that planning for the event is underway. Director Putterill spoke to the increased internet service offering in the community.

Director Ashley – City of Prince Rupert

Director Ashley announced that Citywest would no longer be offering cellular telephone services and that, rather, TELUS Mobility would begin offering this service to the city.

Director Kulesha – Village of Queen Charlotte

Director Kulesha announced that Northern Savings Credit Union and Gwaii Co-Op are sponsoring the erection of a Christmas tree in the Village's spirit square. Director Kulesha reiterated the issues the Village is facing in terms of staffing ambulance attendants.

Chair Pages – Village of Masset

Chair Pages announced that the new airport terminal has been moved into and that the old airport terminal has ceased to be used.

## **13. PUBLIC INPUT**

There were 3 questions from the public.

**14. IN CAMERA**

MOVED by Director Nobels, SECONDED by Director Kinney, that the Board move to the In-Camera meeting following the Regular Meeting under sections 90(1)(a) and (c) of the *Community Charter* –“personal information about an identifiable individual....” and “labour relations and other employee relations”.

**485-2013****CARRIED****15. ADJOURNMENT**

MOVED by Director Nobels, SECONDED by Director Kinney, that the Regular Board meeting be adjourned at 9:25 p.m.

**486-2013****CARRIED**

Approved and adopted:

Certified correct:

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B. Pages  
Chair

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J. Merrick  
Chief Administrative Officer

HAIDA GWAI  
REGIONAL RECREATION COMMISSION

*Third Quarter Commission Meeting  
Wednesday, October 30<sup>th</sup> at 5:30pm  
Haida House at T'laall, Beitush Road, Tlell*

*Present*

*Staff:*

Coordinator – Lucy Neville

Bookkeeper/Recording Secretary – Shirley Kricheldorf

*Commissioners:*

Sandspit – Laurie Chisholm

Skidegate - Darcy Pollard

Member-At- Large – Kris Olsen

Masset – Marg Youngson

Port Clements – Amber Bellis

*Sends regrets:*

Old Massett – Laura Williams

Queen Charlotte – Shawna McLeod

- 1) **Call to Order** – 5:48 pm by Kris O; a quorum is present and has been declared.
- 2) **Amendments and Adoption of the Agenda**
  - a. No amendments.
  - b. Motion by Laurie C to adopt the agenda as presented; Darcy P 2<sup>nd</sup>.  
CARRIED
- 3) **Adoption of the June 2013 AGM Minutes**
  - a. Motion by Laurie C to adopt the minutes as presented; Amber B 2<sup>nd</sup>.  
CARRIED
- 4) **Business Arising from Minutes** - none
- 5) **Reports and Discussions**
  - a. **June – September Month Ends –Coordinator's Report**
    - i. Motion by Darcy P to accept the reports as presented; Laurie C 2<sup>nd</sup>.  
CARRIED

**b. 2013 Third Quarter Financial Report**

- i. Motion by Amber B to receive and file the Third Quarter Financial Report as presented; Marg Y 2<sup>nd</sup>.  
CARRIED

**c. 2013 Third Quarter Society Report**

- i. Motion by Amber B to receive and file the 2013 Third Quarter Society Report; Laurie C 2<sup>nd</sup>.  
CARRIED

**6) Old Business**

**a. Northern Savings Credit Union**

- i. Motion by Laurie C to apply for a Global Payment MasterCard from Northern Savings Credit Union with a maximum purchase amount of \$5000.00; all purchases are to be pre-approved with two signers of the HG Recreation account; Darcy P 2<sup>nd</sup>.  
CARRIED

**7) New Business**

**a. Member-At-Large resignation**

- i. Dennis Baran tendered his resignation as Member-at-Large via email in September, citing time restraints.
- ii. Motion by Darcy P to accept resignation; Laurie C 2<sup>nd</sup>.  
CARRIED

**b. Member-At-Large letter of intent**

- i. Heather Brule submitted a letter of intent to the HG Recreation Board of Commissioners outlining her qualifications and desire to sit on the board as a Member-at-Large.
- ii. Motion by Marg Y to receive and file letter of intent and recommend Heather Brule as a Member-at-Large Commissioner to SQCRD; Amber B 2<sup>nd</sup>.  
CARRIED

**c. 2014 Budget Request line item review**

- i. The Coordinator explained that the Bookkeeper salary had not increased for over five years, and requested it be reviewed for an increase to include in the 2014 Budget Request.
- ii. Motion by Laurie C for Coordinator to review yearly salary percent rate increase as matched by inflation, and circulate information to the Commissioners for review and approval to include in the 2014 Budget Request; Marg Y 2<sup>nd</sup>.  
CARRIED

**d. Fall Programs Update**

- i. The Coordinator gave a photo presentation to the Board of Commissioners on a variety of programs

currently running, and highlighted several upcoming including those designed for seniors: Elder's Engagement in Port Clements, Alternate Fitness in Masset, and Outdoor Fit for Life in QC.

- ii. Motion by Darcy P to thank the Coordinator on behalf of the Board for a successful year, and noted significant expansion and growth of programs and initiatives across the islands; Laurie C 2<sup>nd</sup>.

CARRIED

8) **Open Discussion**

- a. Budget update from Coordinator: though there was significant utilization throughout 2011 and 2012, which led to the creation of a Budget Line Item for 2013, there has been no submission of receipts to the HGRRC for the Moresby Island Travel Fund in the 2013 fiscal year to date.
  - i. Motion by Laurie C to continue promotion of the fund and include information to be distributed via instructors; Amber B 2<sup>nd</sup>.

9) **Adjournment and Next Meeting Date**

Motion by Darcy P. to adjourn meeting at 7:48 pm. The next meeting will be the 2013 AGM, to be held this April – date to be determined.



**Tell The Premier:**  
**Stop the Cuts and Listen to the People!**

**12:30 to 1:30 pm**

**Saturday, January 18<sup>th</sup>, 2014**

**7 locations along the Sunshine Coast Highway - 101**

Gather at 1 of 7 locations along the Sunshine Coast Highway 101: **Langdale Ferry Terminal**, Upper Gibsons at **Pratt Road** and 101, **Roberts Creek Road** and 101, **SIB Offices - Raven's Cry Theatre** in Sechelt, North end of **Redrooffs Road** and 101, **Madeira Park Road** and 101 and **Earls Cove Ferry Terminal**.

Bring your letters about how the proposed BC Ferries service cuts and escalating fares will affect you, your family and your community addressed to **Premier Christy Clark**. Tell her we need an affordable, reliable and sustainable BC Ferries to reinvigorate our coastal communities. Bring colourful signs to show you care and join local government officials, community groups and citizens to **Tell the Premier to Stop the Cuts and Listen to the People**

**Defend Our Marine Highways**  
**Defend Our Coastal Communities**

Your financial support will build the BC Ferry Coalition and the fight against ferry service cuts and fare increases - see website for details.

Organized by the BC Ferry Coalition - [www.bcferrycoalition.com](http://www.bcferrycoalition.com)





## **Tell The Premier:**

### **Stop the Cuts and Listen to the People!**

At every one of the recently concluded BC Ferries Community Engagement meetings across 20 coastal communities, November 20 through December 11, citizens expressed their anger and disbelief over the provincial government's mismanagement of BC Ferries and their proposed service cuts and additional fare increases. The BC Ferry Coalition is fighting back! We are bringing together Local governments, First Nations, Chambers of Commerce, Labour, economic development and tourism agencies, business and residents. Our objective is to create a unified voice to tell the BC government to put our ferry system on an affordable, reliable and sustainable course for all ferry users.

The **BC Ferry Coalition** is asking you to write a personalized letter to **Premier Christy Clark** to express how the proposed BC Ferries service cuts and escalating fares will impact you, your family and your community. Politicians pay attention to personalized letters, especially when received in large volumes. Your letter can make a difference! Don't delay. Write today! Ask the Premier specific questions and tell her you expect specific answers. Ask your family, friends and colleagues to do the same. Flood the Premier's desk with mail!

**Tell the Premier** to listen and put all of the proposed service cuts and fare increases on hold and that the Province should cooperate with coastal communities to conduct open and transparent comprehensive needs assessments in every ferry dependent community and listen to what our communities actually want and need from our marine highways. Then re-design BC Ferries to deliver that service.

**Tell the Premier** to listen to BC Ferry users whose working lives are being made ever more difficult by changing schedules, service cuts and fare increases. Commuters working away from their home communities need reliable and regular schedules to be able to make long-term employment commitments and support their families.

**Tell the Premier** that ferry fares are too high making it more difficult for families to maintain their connections with other family members and friends. Tell her that the already excessive fares are strangling our coastal economies and seriously damaging our social fabric. Tell her that ferry fares should be reduced substantially which will boost ridership and help reinvigorate coastal economies and communities.

**Tell the Premier** that BC Ferries is both a vital public service and an economic generator for the entire province and should be managed for the whole province.

**Tell the Premier** that BC Ferries are our marine highways and you support the principle of fiscal fairness. Provincial highways and our inland ferries are free to all users. Coastal residents should not have to pay both our fair share of the provincial highways budget plus an increasingly disproportionate share of BC Ferries costs.

**Tell the Premier** that the 10-year experiment with BC Ferries as a quasi-independent corporation is a failure. BC Ferries should be bought back under more direct provincial government control. All of its capital assets – the shore facilities, the fleet and replacement vessels and their financing costs - should be owned and funded as part of the provincial highways budget. The operating budget should be financed through substantially reduced fares.

**Tell the Premier** that BC's seniors and First Nations Elders should be respected. The vast majority of our Seniors and Elders live on modest fixed incomes and can ill afford the mean-spirited proposed 50% in the Seniors Travel Discount. They built this province. They should not be made pawns in a provincial government accounting game. The Seniors' Travel Discount should be expanded rather than reduced.

**Write the Premier at:**

**Premier Christy Clark,**  
P.O. Box 9041,  
Stn Prov Govt,  
Victoria, B.C.,  
V8W 9E1  
Tel: 250 387-1715  
Fax: 250 387-0087  
Email: premier@gov.bc.ca

**Send Copies to:**

**Adrian Dix – Opposition Leader**  
5022 Joyce Street,  
Vancouver, B.C.,  
V5R 4G6  
Tel: 604 660-0314  
Email: adrian.dix.mla@leg.bc.ca

**Also send copies of your letters to:**

**Your own MLA** – find your MLA at <http://www.leg.bc.ca/mla/3-1-7.htm>

**BC Ferry Coalition** – [mail@bcferrycoalition.com](mailto:mail@bcferrycoalition.com)

**Your local newspaper as a Letter to the Editor** – Check their maximum word limit and work within those limits.



## **Tell the Premier: Stop the Cuts and Listen to the People**

Key talking points for Saturday's Rallies - choose what you use.

- The government's ill-conceived service cuts and the excessive fares, which are going up, 3.5% fuel surcharge yesterday, and another 4% on April 1<sup>st</sup> are generating an unprecedented outpouring of unity across political divisions, bringing together business, local governments, labour, community groups, seniors and citizens in opposition to their plans. Put bluntly, people are angry and their building new alliances to combine their strength.
- In the 10 ½ years of experimenting with the quasi-private BC Ferries management model, courtesy of Gordon Campbell, the Consumer Price Index increased by 14.9% while ferry fares, depending on the route, increased by 50% to 93%.
- The BC Ferry Coalition is bringing together local governments, First Nations, businesses, labour, seniors, community organizations and sports associations, and citizens to fight for our coastal communities. BC Ferry Coalition support bridges all political distinctions, bringing together Liberals, New Democrats, Conservatives, Greens and independents to stand up to Victoria and stand for our community lives and local economies.
- People around the province, especially in the Premier's office, are following today's actions up and down the Upper and Lower Sunshine Coasts. We are gathered from Langdale Ferry Terminal to Powell River to drive home the point that our coastal ferries are our marine highways. We are here to **Tell the Premier to Stop the Cuts and Listen to the People.**

- Today's action is just the beginning. A first shot across the bow of Christy Clark's government and BC Ferries. There are more actions and activities to follow in the coming weeks and months.
- The BC Ferry Coalition is here to stay. We are not going away. We have joined with the **BC Coastal-Mainland Alliance** to magnify our impact- see the small handbill for the website address. We intend to work with all who care about BC's social fabric and our economy. It is bad social and economic policy to sacrifice existing communities and jobs for distant promises of future economic developments and jobs, many of which may never come to pass. We will take the BC Ferry issue through to and into the next provincial election if need be.
- **We are going to need your financial support** to continue this campaign for a fair ferry service. Today's organizing costs alone are in the range of \$2,500 and the only pockets we have to pick are our own. Coalition supporters will be circulating through the gathering today asking for your financial support. We ask you to please be as generous as you are able to help us cover our costs and to ensure we can continue what we think is important work. We hope you agree. If you are inclined to send us a donation by cheque please do. Our mailing address is on the small handbill that is being distributed today.
- Supporters are also circulating with **petitions to Premier Christy Clark**, which is available for downloading and printing from our website. We would ask that you take the time to sign them, and if you are so inclined, take copies to collect signatures in your neighborhoods and work places and send them back to us completed at the address noted on the small handbill.
- We are also circulating a **BC Ferry Coalition Contact form**. If you would like to be put on our email list or would like to get

involved to help build the Coalition please sign up. Your help will be very appreciated.

- One of our good friends up in Powell River, Laural Eacott, has put up an **On-Line Petition directed to Transportation Minister Todd Stone** asking that BC Ferries be returned to the Department of Highways. The internet address for that petition is on the small handbills that are being distributed and we ask that you take the time to sign that On-Line petition and ask your family, friends and colleagues to do the same.
- The 10-year experiment with BC Ferries as a quasi-independent corporation has been an abject failure. It is a model that has not worked and cannot work. No business can succeed by cutting service and jacking up the price. Albert Einstein defined Insanity as doing that which you have repeatedly done before anticipating different results. It time to bring BC Ferries back under more direct government control and end the insanity.
- The BC Ferries service cuts and escalating fares are fiscally unfair to coastal communities. We are being double-dipped in a mean spirited Victoria-driven accounting game. Coastal British Columbians do not take issue with paying our fair share of the provincial highways budget, which includes free inland ferries. However, we do take issue with also having to pay an increasingly disproportionate share of BC Ferries costs. We will soon be paying approximately 93% of BC Ferry costs, costs which should be shared by all British Columbians as part of the highways budget. There is no other public ferry service anywhere on the planet that comes close to collecting anywhere near 93% of their revenues from the fares.
- Yesterday's 3.5% fuel charge surcharge adds insult to injury. We don't think it is a coincidence it was announced on January 2<sup>nd</sup>, weeks after we announced the date of today's events, to take

effect the day before today's gathering. That is mean spirited in the extreme. No highway users are being charged a fuel surcharge to have their highways plowed of snow. No inland ferry user is being charged a fuel surcharge to ride those vessels.

- Let's look at what is happening around the escalating fare. The Province plans to levy an additional 4% fare increase on April Fools Day. Here's what that increase, coupled with the fuel surcharge will do to fares. For example, a family of 2 adults and 2 children travelling by car from Langdale to Horseshoe Bay return, or Earls Cove to Saltery Bay return, assuming they have an Experience Card, paid \$83.15 prior to the imposition of the fuel surcharge. By April Fools Day that cost will climb to \$91.15, a 9.6% increase. Without an Experience Card, and there are many people who simply don't have the money to maintain the minimum balance, the costs were \$107.25 and will rise to \$115.25 by April Fools! On April 1<sup>st</sup> 2015 the Province plans a further increase of 3.9%.
- BC Ferries declining services and escalating fares are not simply a coastal BC issue. The high fares and declining service drive up costs for coastal communities, they put jobs and businesses at risk, they make life on the coast more difficult. Everyone on the coast has family and friends on the mainland and fare hikes and service cuts make maintaining those relationships more difficult and are definitely **not** family friendly. It also has a negative effect on mainland communities. Communities along the Haida Gwaii and Prince Rupert to Prince George and beyond, from Port Hardy to Bella Coola to Williams Lake into the Cariboo and beyond, all suffer from the loss of BC Ferries services. You simply cannot promote a 'Circle Tour' if there is no circle to promote! And that means loss of economic opportunity and employment across the province.
- High fares and service cuts will mean job losses across coastal and mainland communities. The resulting layoffs will drive up

unemployment and federal Employment Insurance costs. But not too far down the road as EI benefits are exhausted many of those laid off workers, unable to find employment in their communities, will be forced onto the provincial welfare rolls and those rising welfare costs will undermine or extinguish any alleged savings the Province hopes to achieve via service cuts.

- Tourism is an important economic activity for all communities, whether those tourists are British Columbians, other Canadians or international travelers. High ferry fares and declining service hampers people and communities from developing and expanding economic opportunities and job creation. The service cuts and escalating fares are disproportionately unfair to smaller communities where employment alternatives are few and far between.
- It's time for the provincial government to step back and take a sober second look at what they are proposing for BC Ferries. We are demanding that Christy Clark direct that all service cuts be placed on hold, and that open and honest community needs assessments be done in cooperation with coastal communities to find out what services and schedules are needed to help their communities thrive.
- We are demanding that all fare increases be placed on hold and that the Province bring BC Ferries back under more direct governmental control and supervision, with substantially reduced fares, in the range of 30%.
- We believe that the long-term solution is to re-envision BC Ferries as a vital public sector transportation service with substantially lower fares and improved and reliable service with a clear mandate to act as a vital economic generator for all of British Columbia.

- By working together across communities, across demographics and political persuasions we can and will turn this government around to re-focus on the issues that matter to the citizens of BC.
- We thank you for coming today and for your ongoing support.
- Encourage any people in attendance to come up and briefly share their thoughts.

### **Concluding the event**

- Once people have had their say, ask them to line the roadside or area where they are gathered to show their signs and their presence to the passers by.
- When we get to 1:30 pm call everyone together, thank them for coming and congratulate everyone on a successful gathering. Ensure them that news of their participation will be well reported and their commitment is critical in getting the government to listen. Remind them that there will coming events in the weeks and months to follow and ask them to be ambassadors for the BC Ferry Coalition by telling family, friends and colleagues that were unable to be present about the event and why they support the work of the Coalition. Thank them again for their support and wish them a safe journey home.
- If any people are inclined to gather in a nearby coffee shop, restaurant or pub to socialize, let other people know, as there will likely be folks who would love to join in. An after event gathering can be a very important coalition building exercise and allow people to get to know one another better as neighbours and activists. We need to here for the long haul and there's nothing better for organizational longevity than having some fun socializing with others.



**The Provincial Government, BC Ferries and the Ancient Art of Bloodletting:  
Submission to the BC Coastal Ferries Community Engagement – Gibsons, BC**

Saturday, November 30, 2013

Good morning. My name is Jef Keighley.

I am a member of the Lower Sunshine Coast Ferry Advisory Committee. But I am not here today speaking on behalf of or even as a member of the Ferry Advisory Committee.

I am here as the Chair of the Sunshine Coast Senior Citizens. Many of our members are here as well. We see ourselves as responsible elders, concerned not just about seniors' issues, but also for the many intergenerational issues concerning our broader society, including the future of BC Ferries.

We are affiliated to COSCO-BC, the Council of Senior Citizens Organizations of British Columbia. We are BC's largest umbrella organization of seniors, with some 80+ affiliated seniors' organizations which collectively represent some 100,000 seniors across the province.

I wish I could say that we are pleased to be here today, but we are not! In fact, we are outraged at this disgraceful and farcical 'engagement process'. It is an insult to our intelligence and to the intelligence of everyone who has followed the machinations of BC Ferries over the years.

Daniel Prokop observed in his book *Leaving Neverland: Why Little Boys Shouldn't Run Big Corporations* ***"Even amidst tragedy there is laughter, sometimes farce. The degree of farce depends on who is running the tragedy."***

Sadly farce is the most accurate descriptor we can muster to describe what ferry dependent communities up and down our coasts are faced with in this latest round of 'engagement'.

BC Ferries is, plain and simple, a mere service provider whose sole role is to execute the contract laid out for it by the provincial government, nothing more, nothing less. They do a pretty good job of delivering what they are contracted to deliver, but they are not the decision makers!

We are keenly aware that BC Ferries' management and personnel were involved in the creation of the BC Coastal Ferries Community Engagement document before us, notwithstanding earlier suggestions that they were as much in the dark as to what the provincial government was planning as was the general public. The detail of the material contained within the current engagement document could only have been provided by BC Ferries. As we understand it, they were asked to make recommendations, but it was the provincial government who made the decisions as to what was to be cut and how deeply the cuts were to be.

**It is the provincial government that is running this tragedy!** It is the provincial government who will not hear. It is the provincial government who does not understand and/or does not care what ferry dependent communities want and need. And it is the provincial government who will not own up to the cold hard reality that their decade long experiment of **imagining** BC Ferries as an independent corporation has been an abject failure.

Imagination is a wonderful thing! It allows us to conjure amazing fantasies, but when the fantasy fades to black and reality stares you in the face once again you have to recognize that BC Ferries is no more 'independent' than it was when WAC Bennett created it some 50 years ago. BC Ferries is still the vital marine sections of our highway system, as WAC Bennett originally envisioned it to be: a vision respected by every subsequent Premier until Gordon Campbell came along. BC Ferries remains the marine sections of our highway system but the provincial government's treatment of BC Ferries' is undermining the economies of our coastal communities and eroding our quality of life. The proposed service cuts and coming fare increases will simply make a bad situation worse.

Two years ago BC Ferries Commissioner Gordon Macatee met with coastal communities and we told him ferry fares were too high, schedules were too restrictive and that the ferry system was an integral part of our highway system and should be bought back under government control. He reported that ferry fares had then already passed the tipping point and were damaging the economic and social fabric of coastal communities. The provincial government responded by imposing additional fare increases, well in excess of inflation.

Last year, on December 1<sup>st</sup> we gathered at the Cedars Inn, just up the road, to participate in another round of consultation and we again told the provincial government that fares were too high and should be lowered significantly, that BC Ferries should be treated as we treat our highways and funded out of general revenues, that schedules were too limited and that BC Ferries should be bought back under government control. And the provincial government responded by again increasing fares yet again!

And now here we are today!

It seems clear that the provincial government puts its faith in the ancient art of bloodletting: the practice of cutting the patient and letting them bleed, supposedly to rebalance the 'humors' then thought vital to the body's functioning. If the patient's health continued to decline, then they cut and bled some more, in some cases until the patient died. That is what the provincial government appears bent on doing to our coastal communities and we do not see any humor in their approach!

We are not here today to 'engage' in a discussion as to how we 'tweak' the manner of our own execution. We are here to tell the provincial government to stop the bloodletting! We are here to tell the government, once again, what coastal

communities want and need, just as we told them two years ago and again last year; the key points of which are fairly summarized on page 4 of the current 'engagement' document before you. The points are found on the lower left hand corner of page 4.

**Point #1) Fares are not affordable.**

That's what coastal communities said last year, and the year before! By a show of hands how many people in this room agree that ferry fares are not affordable and are getting worse?

We say again that fares are even less affordable than last year and will be increasingly less affordable under the provincial government's scheduled increases of 4 % in 2014 and a further 3.9 % in 2015, both of which will again be well ahead of inflation.

Fares should be reduced substantially, in the range of 30%, and then only allowed to increase in relationship to the rate of inflation.

**Point #2) BC Ferries should be an essential part of the provincial highway system and should be funded by the Province and taxpayers.**

That's what WAC Bennett created BC Ferries to be: the marine sections of our provincial highway system. That's how it functioned up until Gordon Campbell's failed experiment 'imagining' BC Ferries as an independent corporation. BC Ferries should be bought back under more direct government control: the management structure should be stripped down to the bone, and the full capital and financing costs of the shore facilities and the fleet should be paid for by general revenues, just like our highways, with the operating costs covered by ferry fares.

That's how Washington State manages its affordable and efficient ferry service.

Coastal British Columbians do not object to paying our fair share of taxes to support our provincial highway system, but we do object to paying a vastly disproportionate share of BC Ferries costs in addition to our fair share of the highways.

**Point #3) Suggestions regarding increasing revenues or reducing operational costs.**

During last year's consultations most people questioned why they were even being asked about operational cost savings such as using alternate fuels, LNG and the like or considering cable ferries, pointing out those are properly internal decisions to be taken by whatever management structure is in charge of BC Ferries. If such changes are feasible and can save money and can be done in a safe and environmental sustainable manner, don't ask, just do it!

There was discussion last year about raising revenues by capturing fares not paid by the many commercial trucks that arrive on our coast by commercial barge and then freeload on our ferry heading back to Horseshoe Bay. That remains a concern for

our run. We provide the deck space and burn the additional fuel as a freebee to the commercial trucking sector.

There was also discussion about the creation of some passenger-only runs to accommodate commuters which might produce additional revenue streams, and that too remains a concern on our coast. We support in an investigation of the same as suggested in the current set of proposals. We also support investigating improvements to the reservation system, time-of-day pricing and loyalty programs. All of which can and should be part of an open and transparent community needs assessment process.

There was **no support** for increasing revenues by raising general fares as happened in last April and as is scheduled for 2014 and 2015.

**Point #4) Concerns and suggestions regarding BC Ferries operations.**

Much of that discussion centered around excessive executive remuneration, which despite some reductions in the top salaries and bonuses and despite the recent switch-and-bait-sleight-of-hand regarding future executive bonuses remains too high. But rather than tinker at the edges of that relatively minor problem, those concerns can easily be dealt with by returning BC Ferries to more direct government control and by the elimination of the Board of Directors and the Office of BC Ferry Commissioner entirely, combined with a substantial trimming of unnecessary upper management ranks, which simply would not be needed with BC Ferries under more direct government control once again.

**Point #5) Opposition to service cuts**

We were opposed to service cuts last year and we are opposed to service cuts today and into the future.

Coastal residents said two years ago and again last year that what we need are comprehensive needs assessments to be done on what coastal communities actually need from our marine highway links, and that remains the case today. In proposing the current service cuts the provincial government is unable to make out a business case to justify those cuts. **The Provincial government does not know what the real needs of specific coastal communities are because they have not asked.** Indeed, while coastal communities themselves have a good empirical sense of what is needed based on personal and anecdotal experience we also have no hard data on what is really needed because all of our suggestions that such studies be done have been rebuffed in favour of top-down edicts from the provincial government. This is unacceptable!

We say **that all the proposed service cuts should all be put on hold** and that detailed needs assessments for all coastal communities should be conducted in an open and transparent manner before any adjustment to schedules and services are considered. We are convinced that a solid case can be made to increase, not cut services to genuinely meet the needs of our communities for now and in the future.

## **Point #6) Opposition to increased taxes to fund ferry service**

Coastal communities soundly rejected the idea of surcharges on coastal property taxes or coastal community fuel taxes to pay cover regional ferry costs. Localized surcharges are simply other ways to force coastal residents to disproportionately pay the costs of BC Ferries in addition to paying our fair share of the provincial highways budget. It's a non-starter and we are thankful that the Ministry of Transportation has dropped them from the list of strategies under consideration.

**Let's talk a little about what we did not say last year and do not support this year.**

### **The Seniors' Discount**

We did not ask for and do not support cuts to what has been a limited, but for many seniors, a valuable seniors-ride-free Monday to Thursday travel discount.

For those unfamiliar with the program, the discount applies only to the seniors themselves and not their vehicles should they be traveling by vehicle. Seniors must show their Gold Card, a card earned from a lifetime of contributions to our society. It has worked well for 30 years. The original rationale that there was normally ample unoccupied car and passenger deck space during weekday runs remains the case today. For many seniors, that savings is the difference that makes it possible for them to travel to see family and friends, shop, take-in cultural programs not available in their home communities and much more.

Many seniors travel with their own vehicles and to the extent that the proposed 50% reduction in the seniors-ride-free program discourages some seniors from travelling it may well reduce revenues beyond any imagined additional revenues. Additionally, many seniors spend money in the cafeterias and/or the gift shops, both of which are healthy profit centers for BC Ferries and those lost profits have to be balanced against any imagined additional revenues.

The facts are, just as BC Ferries does not know what coastal communities want and need because they have never asked them, they also do not know what seniors want and need. They have no idea what the impact of the 50% reduction of the Seniors' Discount will have or how much the additional revenue might be, if in fact there is any additional revenue at all! The cuts to the Seniors' Discount are as misguided and mean-spirited as the government's wheel chair tax. Both of which should be scrapped!

### **Gaming Pilot Project**

Wow, gaming on our ferries! Perhaps Stephen Hume said it best in one of his recent Vancouver Sun columns ***'What's next? Lap Dancing?'***

This is truly one of the dumbest trial balloons we have heard of in recent times. British Columbians have no shortage of places to gamble, but where they do exist, they are located in discrete locations so as not to be inducements to minors. That would simply not be possible if gaming was allowed on our ferries. We also don't want parents glued to their slot machines while their children run around the upper decks unsupervised and alarms of 'Child Overboard' are rebuffed with parents saying 'Not now! I'm on a winning streak!'

The sad truth is that with the proliferation of gambling outlets BC now has more 'problem gamblers' than ever before. We do not need to feed those addictions enroute to Tsawwassen, Swartz Bay or anywhere else on BC Ferries.

And what about our retail sector? How enthusiastically will they embrace the possibility that a person who was headed for a shopping trip arrives at the other side of the water with less or no money to spend?

Gaming on board BC Ferries is dumb...dumb....dumb...and, we suspect, specifically designed as a throw-away idea to create the illusion the government is listening to the public when they pull back from the gaming idea to appear more 'reasonable' while they ram through the other proposed cuts.

### **Conclusion**

US President Bill Clinton was fond of saying, '**It's the economy, stupid!**'. In fact the slogan helped win his election.

Well folks the message that coastal communities needs to send to Victoria, very loud and very clear, is '**It's Our Highway, Stupid!**' and we need to keep saying it over and over until those in Victoria who will not hear actually get the message and bring BC Ferries back under more direct government control, treat our ferries as we do our highways, lower the fares and improve the schedules.

And if that means having to take the message to the lawn of the BC Legislature or other actions designed to dramatically drive home the message, so be it!

My final question to all of you're here today is '**Who's up for more dramatic action?**'

Respectfully submitted,

Jef Keghley,  
Chair – Sunshine Coast Senior Citizens – COSCO-BC  
8580 Redrooffs Road,  
Halfmoon Bay, B.C.,  
V0N 1Y1  
604 885-2290  
keighley@dccnet.com



200 - 1627 Fort Street, Victoria BC V8R 1H8  
Telephone **(250) 405-5151** Fax (250) 405-5155

Toll Free via Enquiry BC in Vancouver 604.660-2421. Elsewhere in BC **1.800.663.7867**

Email [information@islandstrust.bc.ca](mailto:information@islandstrust.bc.ca)

Web [www.islandstrust.bc.ca](http://www.islandstrust.bc.ca)

January 17, 2014

File No.: 0420-30

via e-mail: [mail@bcferrycoalition.com](mailto:mail@bcferrycoalition.com)

Jef Keighley  
BC Ferry Coalition

Dear Mr. Keighley:

**Re: Support for BC Ferry Coalition's Fiscal Fairness Campaign**

In support of the BC Ferry Coalition's action January 18 and its work to connect ferry-dependent communities on the coast, yesterday we adopted this resolution:

"That Islands Trust Council's Executive Committee express support for the BC Ferry Coalition's Fiscal Fairness campaign, as its goals align with Islands Trust Council's position that coastal communities depend on affordable fares and reliable service levels, that 25% fare rollbacks are needed to revitalize coastal economies, and that the Province should recognize the coastal ferry service as an essential and integral part of BC's transportation infrastructure and fund it accordingly."

Thank you for your work to bring coastal communities together on this vital issue.

Yours sincerely,

Sheila Malcolmson  
Chair, Islands Trust Council

pc: Islands Trust Council

## 2,000 Citizens Turn Out To 'Tell The Premier' Rallies



*Over 500 people attended the Sechelt rally on January 18, 2014, one of seven on the Lower Sunshine Coast. Rallies were also held in Powell River and on Gabriola Island. Duane Burnett photo.*

From the Lower Sunshine Coast to Powell River and Gabriola Island, over 2,000 people turned out to **Tell the Premier, Stop the Cuts and Listen to the People** at nine simultaneous rallies on Saturday, January 18<sup>th</sup>, 2014. The rallies brought together local government leaders, businesses and Chambers of Commerce, labour, seniors, sports teams, community organizations and residents. Hundreds brought their personalized letters addressed to Premier Christy Clark, which will be delivered to the Premier in the coming days.

Thousands of people signed the **Stop the Cuts and Listen to the People** petition stating:

*We demand that your government take BC Ferries back under more direct control with a clear mandate to deliver affordable and reliable public transportation services that meet community needs by:*

- *immediately stopping service cuts and consulting with affected communities;*
- *canceling fare increases and reducing fares by 30%; and*
- *the Province taking responsibility for debt service and capital expenditures.*

The 2,000 people who turned out with their signs and high spirits represent but a fraction of British Columbians who are angered by the provincial government's November 18, 2013 announcement of substantial service cuts to BC Ferries routes, scheduled to take effect on April 1<sup>st</sup>. Adding insult to injury, BC Ferries levied a 3.5% fuel surcharge that took effective on January 17<sup>th</sup>, with an additional 4% fare hike scheduled for this upcoming April Fool's Day.

Coastal residents take no issue with paying their fair share of the provincial highways' budget, which includes free-of-charge inland ferries, but are united in their opposition to being forced to also pay an increasingly disproportionate share of BC Ferries costs. The ferries are their marine highways. Citizens expect



affordable fares and appropriate service levels to re-vitalize both coastal and mainland economies and meet the ongoing needs of their communities.

The provincial government's proposed service cuts demonstrate a lack of understanding about how the cuts will damage both coastal and mainland communities. The service cuts proposed for the Port Hardy – Bella Coola summer service are a dramatic case in point. The Province has indicated it expects to save some \$725,000/year by slashing services to this area while completely ignoring that these same cuts will kill upwards of \$10.7 million in tourism revenues! The route represents one of the most scenic highway-ferry 'circle tours' in the world which, like the circle tours to and from Prince Rupert and Haida Gwaii, if properly marketed, are capable of generating hundreds of millions of dollars in domestic and international tourism revenues for coastal and mainland BC. You cannot promote a 'circle tour' if you don't have a circle to promote!

Since 2003, when then Premier Gordon Campbell moved ferry operations from a crown corporation to a quasi-private corporation, inflation has risen by 14.9%. In that same time period, coastal ferry fares increased by 50% to 93% depending on the route. Dramatically escalating fares and reduced services have been and are continuing to strangle coastal and inland communities. The April 1<sup>st</sup> service cuts will deal further devastating blows. The proposed 50% cut to the Seniors' Travel Discount is both mean-spirited and counter-productive. The non-family friendly cut to the seniors' discount will further isolate parents and grandparents who depend on their marine highway to stay in touch with family and friends.

It is time to bring BC Ferries back under more direct government control. Coastal residents are currently covering some 93% of BC Ferries costs directly through their fares, a system of user-pay unheard of for a public service in any other region of the our province. BC Ferries must be given a new and clear mandate to lower fares, improve services and act as a vital public transportation service and a critical economic generator for all British Columbia.

The recent ferry protests were organized by the newly-formed **BC Ferry Coalition** and the **BC Coastal-Mainland Alliance**. These groups are working together to raise public awareness of the damage the Province has brought upon coastal and mainland communities through their mismanagement of BC Ferries.

The January 18<sup>th</sup> actions are but the start of an extended campaign to push the Province to bring BC Ferries back under government control and ensure BC Ferries delivers affordable and reliable public transportation services that meet community needs.

For more information, please visit our websites at:

BC Ferry Coalition - [www.bcferrycoalition.com](http://www.bcferrycoalition.com) and  
BC Coastal-Mainland Alliance - [www.bcmarinehighway.org](http://www.bcmarinehighway.org)

## AURORA LNG



## AURORA LNG



- Nexen Energy ULC (a wholly-owned subsidiary of CNOOC Limited), INPEX Corporation (INPEX) of Japan and JGC Corporation (JGC) of Japan
- In-depth and complementary LNG experience
- Common vision to deliver clean-burning natural gas to Asia-Pacific
- Currently investigating site options
- Design, construction and operation of a LNG plant





## CORE VALUES



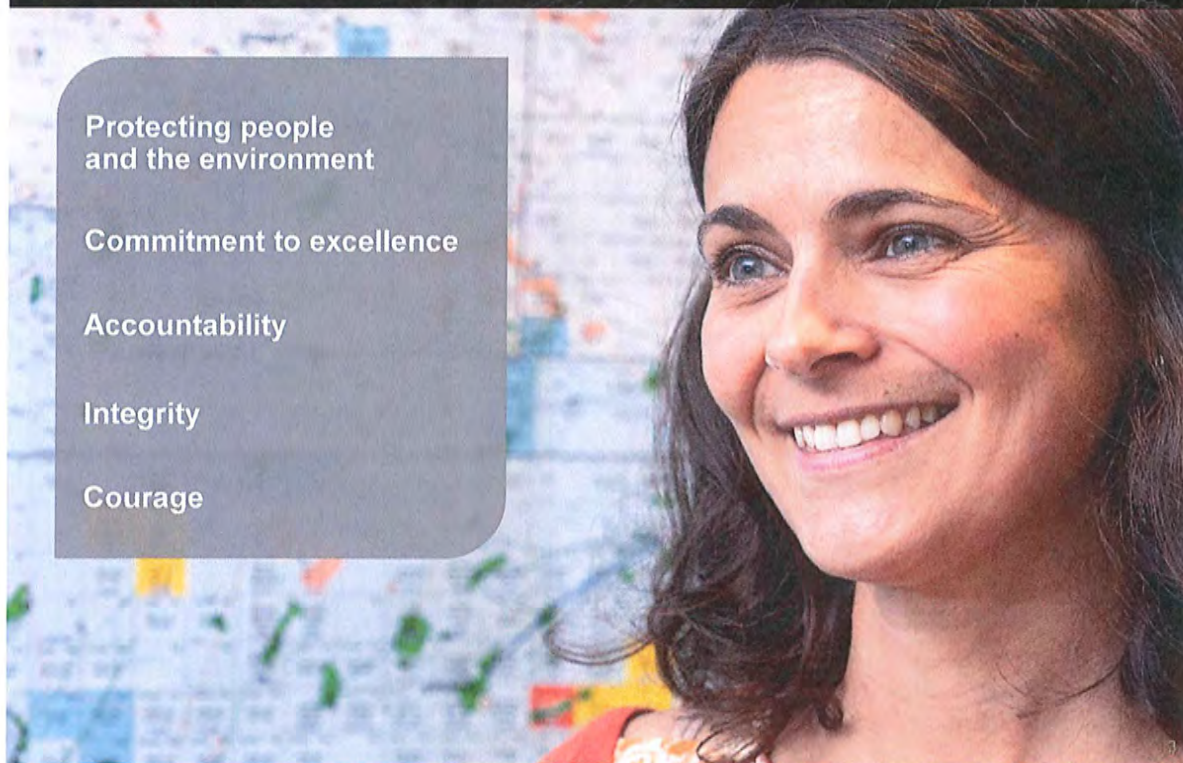
Protecting people  
and the environment

Commitment to excellence

Accountability

Integrity

Courage



## LNG VALUE CHAIN: FROM UPSTREAM TO MARKET



Gas Production



Liquefaction



Receiving and Regasification



Transportation

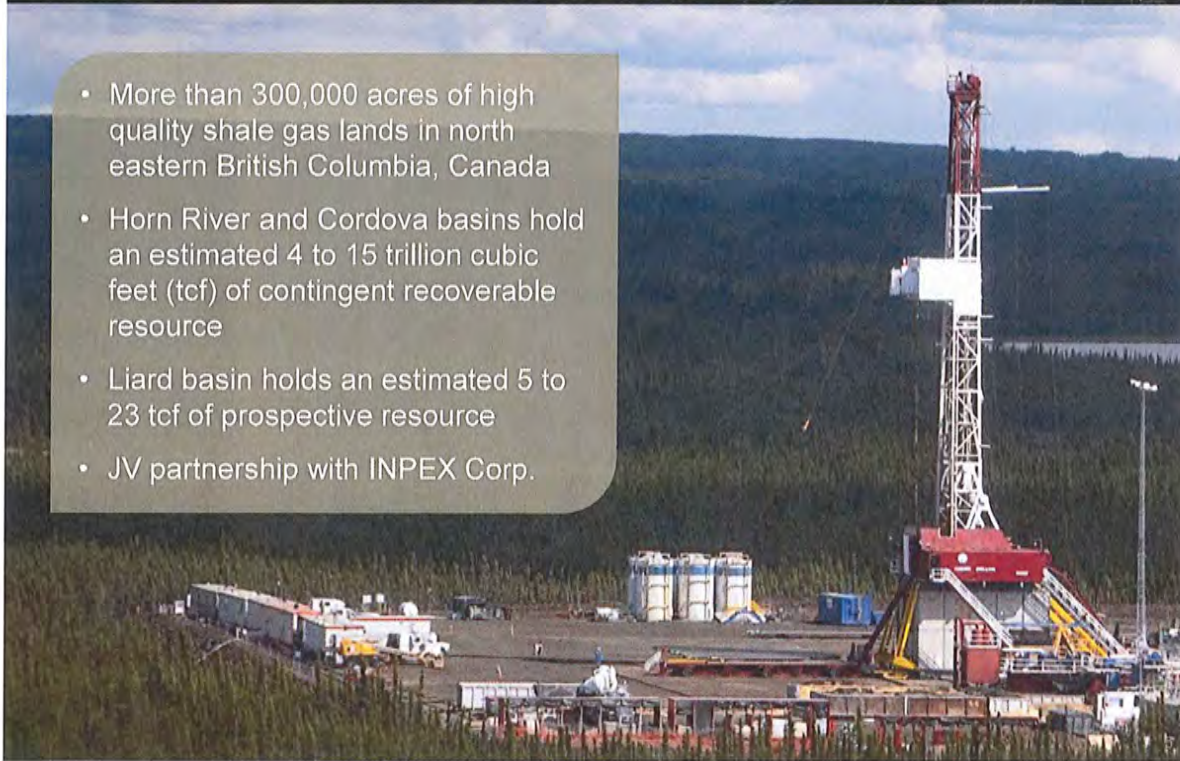




## AURORA LNG NATURAL GAS SUPPLY



- More than 300,000 acres of high quality shale gas lands in north eastern British Columbia, Canada
- Horn River and Cordova basins hold an estimated 4 to 15 trillion cubic feet (tcf) of contingent recoverable resource
- Liard basin holds an estimated 5 to 23 tcf of prospective resource
- JV partnership with INPEX Corp.



## AURORA LNG PROJECT CONCEPT DEVELOPMENT

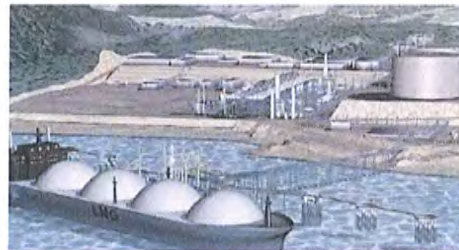


### • LNG Facility

- Total site footprint: 220 hectare/540 acres
- LNG facility (150 hectare/370 acres), laydown (50 hectare/120 acres), camp (20 hectare/50 acres)

### • Infrastructure

- 1-2 LNG trains (five mmtpa per train)
- 2 full containment LNG storage tanks
  - (180,000 m<sup>3</sup> each)
- power plant (80 megavolt) and utility facilities
- berth design capacity 210,000 m<sup>3</sup>
- marine vessel loading approx. every three days
- round trip to Asia is approximately 20 days
- expansion potential to four LNG trains with a production capacity to 20 mmtpa



Concept drawing



## LNG SAFETY



- Aurora LNG recognizes that LNG carrier safety is a high priority
- LNG industry has operated safely and reliably for many years
- Carrier safety will be part of our environmental impact assessment
- Work with the provincial and federal government
- We will also ensure that international standards are adhered to



## ENVIRONMENT



- Aurora LNG is committed to the responsible development of LNG
- Required to conduct environmental impact assessment
- Comply with all provincial and federal environmental regulations





## AURORA LNG PROPOSED PROJECT LOCATION

- Proposed LNG plant and export terminal off the coast of British Columbia, exploring two sites:
- **Grassy Point:**
  - located north of Port Simpson and in close proximity to the community of the Lax Kw'alaams
  - sole proponent agreement with BC Government
  - provides exclusive rights to pursue long-term Crown land tenure
  - Heritage Permit granted



9

## AURORA LNG PROPOSED PROJECT LOCATION



- **Digby Island:**
  - No exclusive rights; applied for investigative use permit
  - Heritage Permit granted

- Investigative activities to be conducted at Grassy Point and Digby Island to determine suitability for LNG development
- Export licence for Aurora LNG filed with the National Energy Board



## COMMITMENT TO WORKING WITH COMMUNITIES



- Life-of-project approach, Aurora LNG partners plan to be part of the community in NW BC for the long term.
- Building and maintaining mutually beneficial long-term relationships with local communities and First Nations based on respect, transparency, inclusiveness, shared understanding and open communication.
- Aurora LNG will work closely with municipal governments, local communities, First Nations and other stakeholders to advance understanding of the project and LNG, understand concerns, identify opportunities to work together, and to enhance social and economic benefits for local communities.
- We are moving forward at a measured pace to be sure that we get it right.
- We seek the Board's advice on opportunities to work with the Skeena Queen Charlotte Regional District

### Building mutual understanding

## JOB CREATION



- Sharing the economic benefits of development with local communities and First Nations
- Build workforce representative of local and First Nations populations
- Benefit from the involvement of local and First Nation employees
- Create community benefits from direct and indirect employment
  - contractors and suppliers – [www.nexencnooltd.com/auroralng](http://www.nexencnooltd.com/auroralng)
  - questions or to learn more about our approach to procurement email [AuroraLNG@nexencnooltd.com](mailto:AuroraLNG@nexencnooltd.com)





## BUILDING CAPACITY



- Building capacity is a cornerstone of the Aurora LNG's on-going engagement strategy
- We will collaborate with local community organizations, governments, and First Nation communities to understand community needs and how we can contribute to building local capacity
- Where possible, we will work with educational and training institutions to develop initiatives
- Programs will be linked closely with the project supply chain and community needs.
- Aurora LNG will strive to encourage a strong local workforce.

**Working together to build a strategic partnership**

## BUILDING CAPACITY



We look forward to working together and establishing an open dialogue on the Aurora LNG project.



- Questions?

**Thank-you for your time**



**Skeena-Queen Charlotte Regional District**  
**Cheques payable over \$5,000 - DECEMBER, 2013**

<b>Payable To</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Amount</b>	<b>Purpose</b>
Aggressive Transport Ltd.	5-Dec	\$8,177.40	Transport Recyclables (6 invoices)
Big Red Enterprises Ltd.	5-Dec	\$15,527.94	November Garbage Collection Contract
Old Massett Village Council Economic Development	19-Dec	\$100,000.00	Towhill Blowhole Boardwalk Grant
Receiver General	13-Dec	\$8,905.82	Payroll Remittance (PP25-2013)
Municipal Pension Plan	16-Dec	\$5,755.39	Payroll Remittance (PP25-2013)
Municipal Pension Plan	31-Dec	\$5,913.94	Payroll Remittance (PP26-2013)
Receiver General	31-Dec	\$11,160.08	Payroll Remittance (PP26-2013)

**TOTAL CHEQUES OVER \$5,000:      \$155,440.57**



DEC 11 2013

DEC 11 2013

Ref: 153955

SKEENA-QUEEN CHARLOTTE  
REGIONAL DISTRICT

Mr. Barry Pages, Chair  
and Members of the Board  
Skeena-Queen Charlotte Regional District  
100 1st Avenue East  
Prince Rupert, BC V8J 1A6

Dear Chair Pages and Board Members:

I appreciated taking part in your meeting with Honourable Christy Clark, Premier, at this year's UBCM Convention in Vancouver. It was a good opportunity for me to hear some of the issues you face as leaders in your community.

I wanted to follow up on the issues raised at the meeting that are within the mandate of the Ministry of Community, Sport and Cultural Development. I know that the Board is dealing with many issues and I am pleased that we were able to support you with the Governance Options Report because it provides short-term as well as longer-term objectives for the Board. I believe that determining priorities amongst those objectives and building on short-term successes will lead the Board to where it needs to go.

I understand that the Board is interested in the incorporation of Sandspit. However, I do not see that as a viable option for this community at this time. I believe that the issues on Moresby Island need to be addressed as part of the Board starting to tackle its broader governance issues.

I appreciate your sharing with me the opportunities and challenges your region will face from proposed industrial development, including Liquefied Natural Gas (LNG) development. Government is committed to creating a framework for benefit sharing that works in your region. This is a high priority for me as Minister of Community, Sport and Cultural Development.

In keeping our collaborative approach to managing this opportunity, I was very pleased with Premier Clark's announcement at Convention that your community and the other local governments in the northwest will have access to a \$150,000 fund to study the impacts that LNG developments have on community water and sewer systems, roads, health, safety and social systems.

Since Convention, Ministry staff have followed up with your staff and with staff from local governments in the northwest who will be impacted by LNG to develop an approach for using these funds that will be informed by regional priorities and community needs. If you require further information please contact

.../2

Mr. Barry Pages, Chair  
and Members of the Board  
Page 2

Ms. Meggin Messenger, Director, Planning Programs, by telephone at: 250 387-4045, or by email at:  
[Meggin.Messenger@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Meggin.Messenger@gov.bc.ca).

We are proud of the partnership we have with you, and the support we have been able to provide to the Skeena–Queen Charlotte Regional District in meeting local priorities and in helping to make our communities strong, healthy and prosperous. I was very pleased to provide you at our meeting with confirmation of your successful application for an Infrastructure Planning Grant for the Sandspit Community Water System Study. I have enclosed a summary of investments my Ministry has made in your community since 2001.

Creating and maintaining the local investment climate are important in fostering economic growth and keeping our communities strong. I look forward to working with you to ensure we are well positioned to take full advantage of these opportunities.

Thank you to your delegation for taking the time to meet with me at the Convention and for the dedication and leadership you are providing to your community.

Sincerely,



Coralee Oakes  
Minister

Enclosure

pc: Honourable Christy Clark  
Premier

Ms. Meggin Messenger  
Director, Planning Programs  
Intergovernmental Relations and Planning Branch  
Ministry of Community, Sport and Cultural Development

**SKEENA-QUEEN CHARLOTTE RD**  
**Summary of Provincial Funding Support**  
**Ministry of Community, Sport & Cultural Development**  
**2001 – Current**

**Infrastructure Support – Building the Foundation for a Stronger Future**

	Year	Project	Provincial Funding
<b>Skeena-Queen Charlotte RD</b>			
CBCIP	2002	Envirocentre Energy Upgrade	29,666
CBCIP	2002	QCC Sewer Capital Project - Pumping Station Upgrades	92,266
CBCIP	2003	Sandspit Safe Water	963,918
MRIF	2008	Skeena-Queen Charlotte - Dodge Cove Water Improvement	266,666
IPG	multiple	Various Infrastructure Studies Since 2002	56,500
T4T	2009	Sandspit Recreation/Community Hall Project	400,000
CRP	2012	Tow Hill Blowhole Boardwalk – Naikoon Provincial Park- Haida Gwaii	100,000
<b>TOTAL</b>			<b>\$1,909,016</b>

**Regional District Grants – Support for Smaller Communities**

	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008
Skeena-Queen Charlotte RD	120,000	120,000	120,000	144,000	168,000
<b>Grand Total</b>					<b>\$672,000</b>

**Strategic Community Investment Fund\***

	March 2009	September 2009	July 2010	March 2011	June 2011	March 2012	June 2012	March 2013	June 2013
Skeena-Queen Charlotte RD	260,347	93,353	56,161	112,850	162,383	113,127	170,067	37,709	94,649
<b>Total</b>									<b>\$1,100,646</b>

\* Strategic Community Investment Funds – are the combination of Small Community and Regional District Grants, as well as Traffic Fine Revenues available to applicable communities in an accelerated payment scheme

MRIF – Canada/BC Municipal Rural Infrastructure Fund  
CBCIP – Canada/BC Infrastructure Program  
TranAP – Transitional Assistance Program  
JOP – Job Opportunities Program

IPG – Infrastructure Planning Grant  
T4T – Towns for Tomorrow  
TAP – Tuition Assistance Program  
CRP – Community Recreation Program

## Support for Resource Community Challenges – Community Development Trust Funding

	Year	Program	Provincial Funding
<b>Skeena-Queen Charlotte RD</b>			
TranAP	as of June 30/10	Community Development Trust	418,610
TAP	as of June 30/10	Community Development Trust	89,870
JOP	as of June 30/10	Community Development Trust	736,723
		<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$1,245,203</b>

## Climate Action Revenue Incentive Program – Support for Community Action on Climate Change

	Year	Program	Provincial Funding
Skeena-Queen Charlotte RD	2009	Reimburse 100 percent of Carbon Taxes Paid	570
	2010		1,207
	2011		1,476
	2012		1,697
	2013		2,256
		<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$7,206</b>

## SUMMARY OF FUNDING SUPPORT

### Building Infrastructure for a Stronger Future

\$1,909,016

### Regional District Grants

\$672,000

### Strategic Community Investment Fund

\$1,100,646

### Community Development Trust Funding

\$1,245,203

### Support for Community Action on Climate Change

\$7,206

\$4,934,071

**TOTAL**

NOTE: Investments highlighted in red are made from programs previously under the responsibility of this Ministry.

MRIF – Canada/BC Municipal Rural Infrastructure Fund	IPG – Infrastructure Planning Grant
CBCIP – Canada/BC Infrastructure Program	T4T – Towns for Tomorrow
TranAP – Transitional Assistance Program	TAP – Tuition Assistance Program
JOP – Job Opportunities Program	CRP – Community Recreation Program





RECEIVED

DEC 17 2013

December 12, 2013

Ref: 154580

Mr. Barry Pages  
and Members of the Board  
Skeena-Queen Charlotte Regional District  
100 - 1st Avenue East  
Prince Rupert, BC V8J 1A6

Dear Chair Pages and Board Members:

I am writing today to invite your local government's input on the second phase of local government elections reform.

I wrote to all local governments on August 27, 2013 to announce the release of a White Paper on Local Government Elections Reform. As noted in the White Paper, I have initiated targeted stakeholder engagement on expense limits in November 2013. The intent is to develop and introduce expense limits legislation in time for the next local elections *after* 2014. Given the diversity of views on the topic and the complex policy issues, I want to start discussions on expense limits early and be in a position to introduce expense limits with plenty of lead-time before the next elections after 2014.

Expense limits would ultimately be added into the proposed *Local Elections Campaign Financing Act*. This two-phase approach allows campaign participants to first become familiar with a new, separate Act with new rules around transparency, accountability and enforcement before adding expense limits into local elections.

Information gathered through talking to key stakeholders, such as local governments, will help inform the development of expense limits. I will be having regular discussions with the Union of British Columbia Municipalities' Executive as we move forward. However, I also wanted each local government to have an opportunity to share perspectives on expense limits, and issues related to expense limits. I would appreciate your thoughts on questions and issues around campaigning for office. For example,

- In your community, do you think the cost of campaigning is a deterrent to people considering running for office?
- What are the most significant cost pressures in local campaigns?
- Are campaign finance issues different in small communities than in large communities, and if so, in what ways?

.../2

Mr. Barry Pages  
and Members of the Board  
Page 2

I am also interested in your views on approaches to setting expense limits in local elections. The Local Government Elections Task Force recommended expense limits for candidates and third party advertisers in all communities. The Task Force suggested that expense limits need to take community population into account in order to work in British Columbia's diverse communities, and that elector organizations should not get a separate, additional limit. The Task Force did not specify what they felt expense limits should be.

Enclosed for your reference is a short discussion paper. The paper includes some background on expense limits issues, including some information on local campaign spending in British Columbia and information on other provinces' approaches. This paper can also be found at [www.localgovelectionreform.gov.bc.ca](http://www.localgovelectionreform.gov.bc.ca). Comments from the public are also invited until January 31, 2014.

Please note that it is optional to provide feedback on expense limits issues. As a former council member, I understand that councils and boards have busy agendas and it may be difficult to find time to discuss this issue. However, I do appreciate hearing from your community.

Please provide your thoughts by January 31, 2014. Submit your feedback electronically to: [Localgovelectionreform@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Localgovelectionreform@gov.bc.ca), or in writing to:

Local Government Elections Reform  
Ministry of Community, Sport and Cultural Development  
PO BOX 9847 STN PROV GOVT  
Victoria BC V8W 9T2

I will also take this opportunity to remind you that the White Paper on Local Elections Reform released in September 2013 provided a draft version of the proposed new *Local Elections Campaign Financing Act*, intended for introduction in the Legislature in Spring 2014. If passed, the Act would make a significant number of changes, principally related to enhanced transparency, compliance and enforcement, for the November 2014 local elections.

Thank you in advance for your assistance.

Sincerely,



Coralee Oakes  
Minister

Enclosure

pc: Director Rhona Martin, President, Union of British Columbia Municipalities

November | 2013

RECEIVED

DEC 2 2013

SKEENA-QUEEN CHARLOTTE  
REGIONAL DISTRICT

# Expense Limits in Local Elections Discussion Paper



Ministry of  
Community, Sport and  
Cultural Development



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## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Local Government Elections Task Force, a partnership between the Province and the Union of BC Municipalities, was created to recommend changes to local elections rules. One of the 31 recommendations in the Task Force's May 2010 final report was that the Province establishes expense limits for candidates, elector organizations and third party advertisers in local elections.

The Government of British Columbia intends to introduce expense limits in time for the next local elections after November 2014.

As noted in the [White Paper on Local Government Elections Reform](#), government initiated targeted stakeholder engagement on expense limits issues in November 2013. Government will use information gathered through this process to inform the development of expense limits. While it may seem early to be talking about expense limits issues, it is important to be prepared to introduce legislation early enough that campaign participants are ready for expense limits and the new rules.

This discussion paper outlines the policy building blocks for expense limits and some of the complex policy issues involved in the legislative framework for expense limits. It also provides discussion questions. The appendices contain information on trends in local campaign spending in B.C., and on other provinces' approaches to expense limits for local elections.

### How do I give my feedback?

Please provide your written comments by January 31, 2014.

**Website:** [www.localgovelectionreform.gov.bc.ca](http://www.localgovelectionreform.gov.bc.ca)

**Email:** [localgovelectionreform@gov.bc.ca](mailto:localgovelectionreform@gov.bc.ca)

**Mail:** Local Government Elections Reform  
Ministry of Community, Sport and Cultural Development  
PO BOX 9847 STN PROV GOVT  
Victoria BC V8W 9T2

## INTRODUCTION

### Why expense limits in local elections?

The Local Government Elections Task Force, a partnership between the Province and the Union of BC Municipalities, was created to recommend changes to local elections legislation. One of the 31 recommendations in the Task Force's May 2010 [final report](#) was that the Province establishes expense limits for candidates, elector organizations\* and third party advertisers in local elections.

In reviewing written submissions and listening to the dialogue on elections issues, the Task Force heard a great deal of support for establishing expense limits in local elections. The Task Force believed that expense limits could increase accessibility and fairness by levelling the playing field among candidates; encouraging candidate participation; and reducing the need for large contributions to fund expensive campaigns.

The provincial government accepted the Task Force's recommendations and committed to implementing them – including expense limits.

### What is happening with expense limits?

**Timing:** The Province released a [White Paper on Local Government Elections Reform](#) in September 2013. The White Paper provided a draft version of the proposed new *Local Elections Campaign Financing Act*, to be introduced in the Legislature in Spring 2014. If passed, the Act would put into place the majority of the Local Government Elections Task Force's recommendations in time for the November 2014 local elections. These changes are focused on improved accountability, transparency, compliance and enforcement. The draft Act applies to local government and board of education elections.

*For more detail on the changes proposed for 2014, please see [www.localgovelectionreform.gov.bc.ca](http://www.localgovelectionreform.gov.bc.ca)*

The draft *Local Elections Campaign Financing Act* represents Phase I of campaign finance reform in BC local elections. Phase II involves introducing expense limits legislation in time for the next local elections *after* 2014. The phased approach will allow campaign participants, local elections administrators and others to adapt to the changes before adding spending limits to the local elections system. The phased approach also allows more time for discussion of expense limits issues before any decisions are made.

**Stakeholder engagement:** As noted in the White Paper, government initiated targeted stakeholder engagement on expense limits issues in November 2013. Government will use information gathered through this process to inform the development of expense limits. The intent is to introduce legislation for expense limits *after* the November 2014 local elections. While it may seem early to be talking about expense limits issues, it is important to be prepared to introduce legislation early enough that campaign participants are ready for expense limits and the new rules to make the limits work.

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\* Elector organizations are groups that promote candidates in local elections. They are sometimes referred to as municipal 'political parties.' Elector organizations endorse candidates. The organization's endorsement appears on the ballot next to candidates' names. Elector organizations regulated under the legislation – e.g. currently they must have at least 50 members that are electors in the municipality and have existed for at least 60 days, and they must file campaign finance disclosure statements. See the ministry's [guide](#) for more information.



## BACKGROUND ON EXPENSE LIMITS FOR B.C. LOCAL ELECTIONS

### What are the guiding concepts on expense limits?

In accepting the Task Force's recommendation to establish expense limits, the provincial government has been taking the Task Force guidance for developing expense limits as a starting point. The Task Force laid out some objectives or outcomes it thought should shape expense limits. The Task Force recommended that expense limits:

- be high enough to allow reasonable campaigns, but not so high as to allow a few participants to dominate,
- need to work in different sized communities (i.e. a formula-based approach would make sense, but a straight per resident formula would not be effective), and
- have a neutral effect on candidates' decisions to run independently or to create/join elector organizations.

The Task Force recognized that campaign spending was quite low in the majority of BC's communities. However, for fairness reasons the Task Force felt it was important to have expense limits in all communities. The Task Force suggested that expense limits be set in a way that reflects population size in order to make the limits effective and fair in all BC communities (ranging in population from about 180 people to more than 600,000 people).

The Task Force also emphasized that expense limits should not "punish" or "reward" candidates that are endorsed by elector organizations. The Task Force saw that while the majority of BC communities do not have elector organizations, where elector organizations do exist, they are a fairly prominent part of elections in the community. The Task Force did not want expense limits to provide an incentive to create more elector organizations (or splinter existing ones) simply for the sake of obtaining higher "spending room." It would also be unfair to independent candidates (who are not endorsed by elector organizations) if elector organizations got additional limits beyond what candidates get.

The Task Force assumed that the Province would establish expense limits. In some other provinces, local governments have the power to, by by-law, set their own campaign finance rules. The Task Force also recommended that Elections BC enforce campaign finance rules in local elections, so that means Elections BC would enforce expense limits.

The following are some of the key policy concept coming out of the Task Force's guidance:

- expense limits need to work for all communities
- candidates and third party advertisers would be subject to expense limits
- elector organizations would not get expense limits over and above candidates' limits
- expense limits would be sensitive to population size
- expense limits would also apply in board of education elections
- the Province would set expense limits
- Elections BC would enforce the limits as part of its role in enforcing campaign finance rules

## How can I add to the expense limits discussion?

The purpose of stakeholder engagement on expense limits is to explore how best to set expense limits that work for all communities. The Province will need to decide on the approach to setting expense limits numbers, and on the related “framework” rules.

You are invited to share your thoughts on expense limits issues. Below are some questions the Province would like to explore. Feel free to answer as many of the questions as you wish, and to give feedback on issues you would like to raise that are not covered by the questions below.

For additional background, please see Appendix 1 (Facts on Campaign Spending in B.C.) and Appendix 2 (Expense Limits in Local Elections in Other Provinces).

## Discussion questions

### Questions about campaigning

- In your community, do you think the cost of campaigning is a deterrent to people considering running for office?
- What are the most significant cost pressures in local campaigns?
- Are campaign finance issues different in small communities than in large communities, and if so, in what ways?
- Are campaign finance issues different for board of education elections than for local government elections?
- Do you think social media will impact (raise or lower) campaign spending? Why or why not?

### Questions about the policy “starting point” for expense limits

The Task Force provided some policy guidance on expense limits, suggesting that limits

- be high enough to allow reasonable campaigns, but not so high as to allow a few participants to dominate,
  - need to work in different sized communities (i.e. a formula-based approach would make sense, but a straight per resident formula would not be effective), and
  - should have a neutral effect on candidates’ decisions to run independently or to create/join elector organizations.
- Do you think that these objectives are a reasonable starting point for expense limits? Is there anything you would change about these objectives, or anything important missing?
  - Page 2 shows the key policy concepts coming out of the Task Force’s guidance. Would you change any of these?

### Questions about possible expense limits models

- In the two other provinces where the provincial government sets expense limits for local elections, the limit is established by a formula with a “base” amount and additional amounts for each elector. For example, in Ontario, the limit for a mayoral candidate is \$7,500, plus 85 cents per elector and \$5,000 plus 85 cents per elector for council candidates. The same formula for all



communities results in different *limits* in each community depending on population.

- Does the concept of a base amount, plus additional “per resident” amounts, seem like a reasonable approach in BC?
- Or are there other, simpler models to consider? For example, would “tiered” limits (the same limit for all communities under 5,000 or so people, a higher limit for all communities of 5,000 to 10,000 people, and so on) be a better approach?
- If a model were established that resulted in different limits in each community (such as a base plus per resident model), would you support the Province making things simple for candidates and local governments by calculating the limit in each community and providing notice of the limits?
- Are there other, additional factors beyond population that should be taken into account when setting expense limits?
- How should board of education candidate limits be set? Should they be connected to the limits for council candidates (i.e. the same as a council candidate’s limit)? If so, what happens when the boundaries of school districts do not line up with municipal boundaries?
- Would it make sense for third party advertisers’ limits to be connected to the limits for candidates in the community where the third party is conducting advertising?

### What other factors must be considered in developing expense limits?

Establishing expense limits requires some basic policy decisions – who limits apply to, how much the limits are and how they are set. In addition to considering those basic policy decisions, government will also need to address a host of related “framework” issues. For expense limits to be effective, there will need to be rules in the legislation that set out in detail how expense limits are managed and enforced.

For example, following the Task Force guidance, elector organizations would not have a separate expense limit over and above expense limits for candidates. Framework rules would be needed to manage the relationship between candidates and the elector organizations that endorse them. Questions such as who can incur expenses (the elector organization, the candidate, or both) raise further questions, such as who is responsible if there is over-spending?

Some complex policy issues stem from the need to make sure that expense limits can’t be circumvented. For example, policies will be needed for candidates that share advertising (or other campaign expenses, like candidate meet-and-greets). The legislation would still allow candidates to work together informally as a “slate” (i.e. outside of an elector organization), but rules to prevent collaborating for the purposes of working around expense limits would be needed. For example, it would be unfair for a candidate with left over “spending room” to pay for advertising promoting another candidate who has already reached his or her expense limit. Rules about how to attribute shared expenses fairly amongst candidates would be needed.

In designing expense limits for local elections, there are constitutional issues to consider. For example, a number of Canadian court cases have upheld the general principle that regulating third party advertising during elections is an acceptable limitation on freedom of speech. However, rules for third parties must strike a reasonable balance between regulation and not unduly impairing freedom of speech. Other legal factors (such as protection of privacy) will have to be considered.

These policy issues are flagged in this paper to provide a preview of the types of policy decisions government will need to make, over and above deciding what the actual limits amounts in each community should be. It is not as simple as just adding the limits numbers or formula into a piece of legislation.

### Next steps – what happens with the feedback from stakeholders?

In addition to seeking feedback on this paper, the Minister of Community, Sport and Cultural Development will also be speaking to the Union of BC Municipalities and its area associations between November 2013 and late January 2014. Views of the B.C. School Trustees Association will also be sought, as will views of other campaign participants, such as elector organizations. In Spring 2014, a summary of information received will be published. The Province will consider the results of this targeted stakeholder engagement when developing expense limits and related “framework” rules.

### Next steps - how would expense limits be implemented?

The White Paper on Local Government Elections Reform (issued September 2013) details a proposed new Act for local elections campaign finance - the draft *Local Government Campaign Financing Act*. If passed by the Legislature in Spring 2014, the Act would bring into force a number of major changes in place in time for the November 2014 local elections. Those changes are focused on improved transparency, improved campaign finance disclosure and a role for Elections BC in enforcement of campaign finance rules in local government elections.

The *Local Government Campaign Financing Act* is Phase I of local elections campaign finance reform.

For Phase II, the government intends to develop local elections campaign expense limits in time for the next local elections *after* November 2014.

Introducing expense limits requires legislation. The *Local Government Campaign Financing Act* would be amended to establish expense limits and related policy rules. Like all legislation, expense limits amendments would be tabled for the Legislature’s consideration.

### How do I give my feedback?

Please provide your written comments by January 31, 2014.

**Website:** [www.localgovelectionreform.gov.bc.ca](http://www.localgovelectionreform.gov.bc.ca)

**Email:** [localgovelectionreform@gov.bc.ca](mailto:localgovelectionreform@gov.bc.ca)

**Mail:** Local Government Elections Reform  
Ministry of Community, Sport and Cultural Development  
PO BOX 9847 STN PROV GOVT  
Victoria BC V8W 9T2



## Appendix 1: Facts on Campaign Spending in B.C.

### Considering the context

In addition to considering the Task Force's policy guidance on expense limits, it is important to consider campaign spending trends in BC.

There are over 1,660 elected positions in over 250 government bodies filled during local elections. Typically, around 3,000 candidates run for these offices. Comparing campaign spending across communities and over multiple years is currently difficult because there is no central place to find all campaign finance disclosure statements for municipal, electoral area director (regional district electoral area) and board of education candidates.<sup>1</sup>

Other factors add complexity:

- Support from campaign organizers\* might have led to some candidates' spending being lower than it would otherwise have been. The precise amount of support received from campaign organizers cannot accurately be factored into candidate spending figures.
- Not all spending disclosed in campaign finance disclosure statements was done during the campaign period. For example, a portion of the costs for "paid campaign work" in some elector organizations' disclosure forms was probably for having paid staff in the years in between elections. Maintaining an organization in between elections is certainly relevant to the campaign; however, actual spending during campaign time may be lower than it appears from disclosure statements.
- "Average" spending may not present a full picture of what it typically costs to campaign in a community. For example, one or two "outlier" candidates who spend much more than their competitors affect calculations of average spending for that community. Similarly, it is reasonable to guess that candidates who spent nothing and got almost no votes probably didn't actually campaign; such candidates would skew the average downwards.
- Campaign finance disclosure statements may not disclose spending fully and accurately.

These caveats aside, looking at a sample of municipal election spending reveals some general trends.

### Trends in municipal campaign spending

Overall, spending is fairly low. To gauge how much was spent by people who ran competitive campaigns, a sample of spending by "contenders" was taken. Only the top two-thirds of candidates closest to winning a seat were classified as contenders. Including people who may have spent nothing, and also got almost no votes (indicating that they possibly did not campaign at all) would lead to a less realistic estimate of what it costs to be competitive.

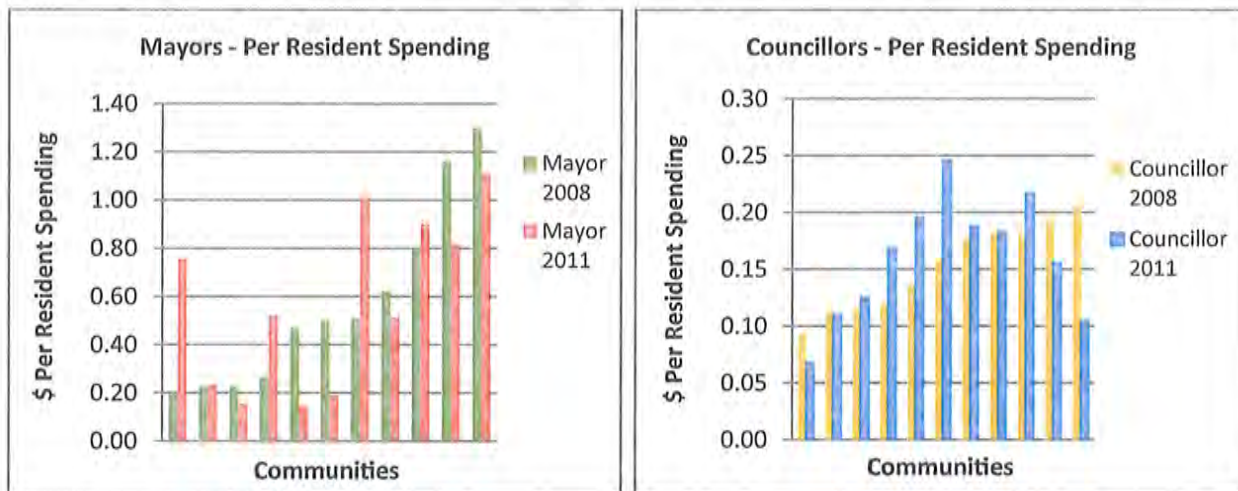
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<sup>1</sup> The draft *Local Elections Campaign Financing Act* would make all campaign finance disclosure statements available through Elections BC.

\* Campaign organizers are individuals or groups that promote or oppose candidates or points of view during elections. A campaign organizer must identify itself to the local chief election officer once it raises contributions, or incurs expenses, valued at \$500 or more. Campaign organizers must also file campaign finance disclosure statements. Unlike elector organizations, campaign organizers do not necessarily have a relationship with candidates they support or oppose. See the ministry's [guide](#) for more information. The proposed *Local Elections Campaign Financing Act* would discontinue the concept of campaign organizers, instead regulating "third party advertisers."

In this sample of spending in communities of various sizes by almost 500 contenders for mayor and council seats, only 8% of candidates spent more than \$50,000. 31% spent less than \$2,000.

Spending is not that predictable. Overall, spending seems to be driven mostly by the political dynamics in a particular community in a particular election. “Hot races” can mean more spending in a community in compared to elections in other years. Conversely, if fewer candidates run in an election, or if electors are less interested in the candidates or issues, spending might go down. Spending does not necessarily go up by a predictable amount each election. The following charts provide an illustration of 2008 vs. 2011 election spending in a random sample of 11 communities of various sizes. The charts demonstrate some of the potential variability in per resident spending from one election to the next.



Spending is not only variable from one election to the next, but it is also quite variable between communities of similar size. For example, the following table shows what candidates spent per resident spending differences in two sample communities in two different size groupings in 2011.

#### Sample of Candidate \$ Per Resident Spending in Two Community Sizes

Communities 4,000 to 5,500 people:

Community	Mayor	Council
A	\$5.56	\$1.11
B	\$0.21	\$0.63

Communities 75,000 to 80,000 people:

Community	Mayor	Council
C	\$0.79	\$0.12
D	\$0.08	\$0.07

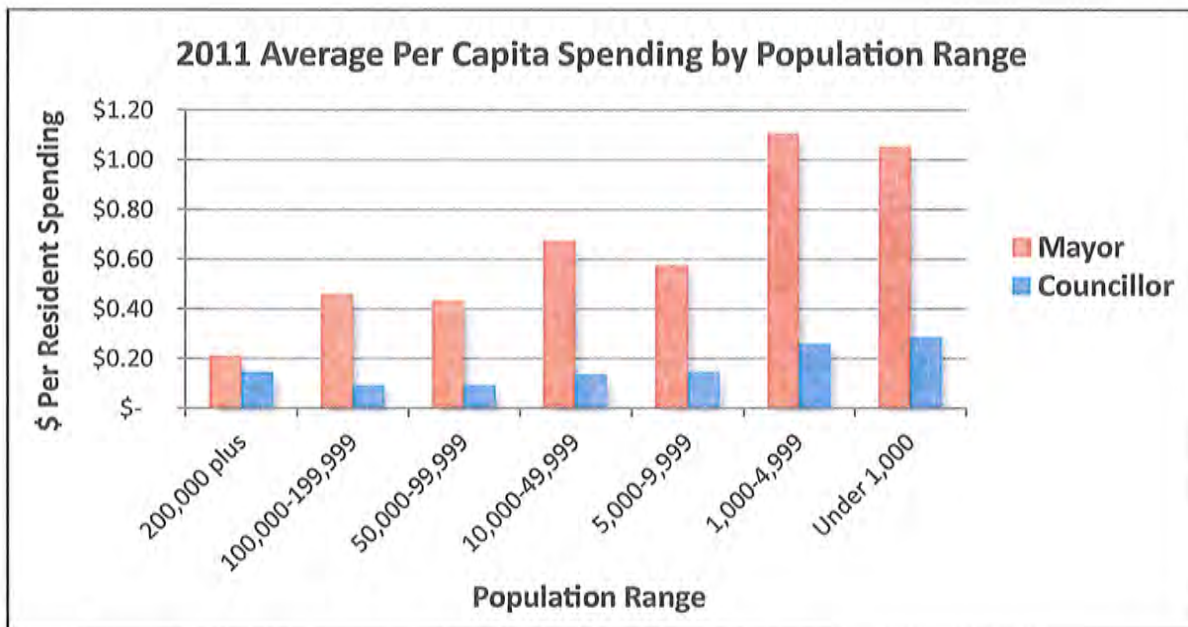
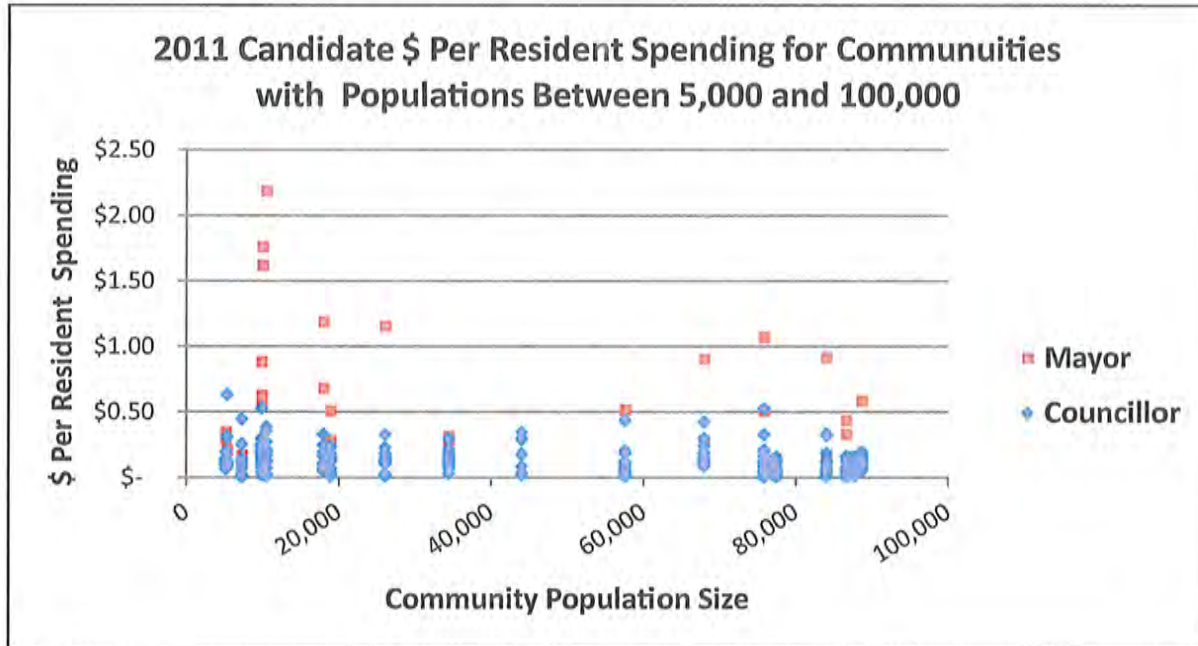
These examples suggest that

- spending in smaller communities can be high relative to the community's population, and
- spending in a community can be high relative to other similarly-sized communities.



Some candidates spend a lot more than their competitors. In communities of any size, some candidates are spending “outliers” compared to their competitors.

Mayoral candidates spend more than council candidates. Council candidates compete for one of several seats. The mayor’s race is “winner take all” and may be more easily influenced by high spending in a tight race. In a sample of 492 disclosure statements from communities of all sizes in the 2011 election, mayoral candidates spent an average of almost 4 times more per resident than what council candidates spent (\$0.64 per resident and \$0.17 per resident respectively).



In addition to showing that mayoral candidates spend more than council candidates, the previous chart shows that per resident spending may be higher in small communities. Relatively higher per resident spending in smaller communities probably indicates that there is a certain base cost involved in campaigning, and possible economies of scale in larger communities.

Spending in Vancouver is uniquely high and appears to increase each election. In 2008, spending by all elector organizations that had at least one endorsed candidate elected, plus the spending disclosed by their endorsed candidates (whether elected or not), totalled about \$4.5 million. In 2011, the total was about \$5.3 million. Total spending in Vancouver is far higher than spending in any other community in BC.

Vancouver elections are unique in several ways. Vancouver is the most populous city, with almost 178,000 more people than the next largest city. Vancouver sees a consistently large number of candidates for all offices each year. It also has an elected parks board. No independent candidates were elected in 2008 or 2011. Vancouver also has longstanding tradition of elector organizations, with an apparent trend towards more formal operation (e.g. paid staff).

#### Other observations:

In municipal elections, elected candidates almost always spent money to campaign; generally, they spent more money than those who were not elected. There are exceptions – candidates far outspending their competitors yet failing to obtain a seat, or candidates spending nothing and still obtaining a seat. It is difficult to say whether spending money “leads” to getting elected, though, because some low-spending unsuccessful candidates may not have put much effort into free and/or low-cost methods of campaigning.

Electoral area director candidates (in regional districts) tend to spend less than council candidates. Board of Education candidates also generally spend less than council candidates.

#### **So what do these trends mean for setting limits?**

Campaign spending trends (as well as more detailed spending data) will be considered in developing an approach for setting expense limits. For example, since mayoral candidates spend more than council candidates, a higher limit for mayoral candidates would make sense. Limits should also take into account the basic campaign cost evident even in the smallest town.



## Appendix 2: Expense Limits in Local Elections in Other Provinces

### Which provinces have expense limits in local elections?

- Ontario – all local governments
- Quebec – local governments with populations over 5,000
- Manitoba – all local governments
- Saskatchewan – some local governments
- Newfoundland & Labrador – some local governments (St. John's)

### Who sets the limits?

There are three basic approaches to setting expense limits:

- The province **adopts provincial legislation** setting the limits (Ontario, Quebec)
- The province **requires** municipalities to adopt a bylaw with campaign expense limits; the municipality chooses the limits (Manitoba requires all local governments to adopt a bylaw)
- The province **allows** municipalities to adopt a bylaw with campaign expense limits; the municipality chooses the limits (Saskatchewan, Newfoundland & Labrador)

### What do the limits have in common?

Generally, the limits are sensitive to population. In provinces that set the limit, there is a formula involving a base amount plus a per elector amount. In most examples where the municipality sets the limits, the limit takes into account the number of electors.

In all cases where the limits are sensitive to population, municipalities are responsible for determining the number of electors in the jurisdiction/wards (usually through their municipally-maintained voters' lists), calculating the limits and informing candidates of their limits.

Where formulas are used, they generally have a provision for inflation tied to the Consumer Price Index.

Except for in Quebec, enforcing the limits is a local responsibility.

### Caveats when looking at limits

It is difficult to compare limits because different provinces have very different rules as to how an election expense is defined, which election expenses actually count against the expense limit, and how long the period is in which spending is capped.

It can also be difficult to compare limits across jurisdictions because some cities are divided into wards. Under a ward system, council candidates compete to represent a geographically defined part of the city; usually the mayor is elected "at large" by voters across the city. Typically a candidate would not need very high limits if they are campaigning in only a small area. Toronto, Montreal and Winnipeg have wards. Currently only one BC local government uses a ward system.

In some provinces, local governments maintain a list of electors. Maintaining a voters list is not mandatory in BC. Many local governments do same-day registration.

## Ontario

**Provincial legislation** sets the limits. Limits set by the *Municipal Election Act* apply to all local governments. The formula is the same for Toronto and for all other local governments.

### Formula

Mayor - \$7,500 + 85 cents per elector

Council candidate - \$5,000 + 85 cents per elector

School board trustee candidate - \$5,000 + 85 cents per elector

### Examples – 2010 elections

#### Toronto (2.5 million people\*)

Mayor - \$1.3 million (elected at large)

Council candidates in Ward 7 - \$27,464 (Ward 7 just one example; Toronto has 44 wards)

#### Mississauga (668,550 people\*)

Mayor - \$319,664

Council candidates - \$27,000 to \$39,000, depending on ward populations

School trustees - \$23,000 to \$45,000

#### Timmins (42,997 people\*)

Mayor - \$35,549

Council candidates - \$7,000 to \$19,000 depending on ward populations

### *Other notes on expense limits in Ontario*

There is no regulation of third parties and no spending limits for third parties.

The 2010 local elections were the first with spending limits in place.

City administrators calculate the limits based on the estimated number of electors on the municipally-maintained voters' list and notify candidates of their limits.

Candidates' financial statements must be audited by an independent auditor before they can be filed. Enforcement of campaign finance rules is essentially a local matter.

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\* 2006 census population provided for sense of scale. Not all residents counted in the census would be qualified electors.

## Quebec

Provincial legislation sets the limits. The limit formula is the same for all local governments.

### Formula

Mayor – base of \$3,780, plus 30 cents per elector up to 20,000 electors; 51 cents for each elector from 20,000 to 100,000 and 38 cents per elector for each elector over 100,000 electors

Council candidate – base of \$1,890, plus \$0.30 per person

Municipalities under 5,000 people are generally exempt from campaign finance rules, except for limits on how much an individual can contribute and a requirement to disclose names of contributors.

### *Other notes on expense limits in Quebec*

Quebec amended the provincial legislation to reduce the spending limits by about 30 per cent of the previous limits. The 2013 elections were held under the new, lower limits.

Third party advertising is extremely tightly regulated. It is essentially prohibited for third parties to support candidates in ways that involve expenditure of funds (advertising, rallies, etc.). A group of electors (individual citizens) may apply for “private intervener” status during an election, but may only spend up to \$300 and may only disseminate a non-partisan message on a matter of public policy (e.g. private intervener groups are forbidden to promote/oppose candidates).

Municipalities appear to be responsible for maintaining a list of electors.

Elections Quebec enforces the campaign finance rules, including expense limits.

Quebec has 1,103 municipalities. Expense limits apply in municipalities over 5,000 people. There are 185 municipalities with a population of 5,000 or more. Those 185 municipalities cover 88% of Quebec’s total population.

There are just over 900 municipalities with fewer than 5,000 people. Municipalities under 5,000 people have no spending limit, and no rules regarding expenses.



## Manitoba

Provincial legislation **requires** municipalities to adopt a bylaw with campaign expense limits (and other campaign finance rules, such as contribution limits); the municipality chooses the limits.

Example – formula in City of Winnipeg Bylaw (population about 633,450)

Mayor - 35 cents per elector in the city (adjusted using consumer price index) – mayor limit in 2010 about \$150,000

Council candidate - 90 cents per elector in the ward (adjusted using consumer price index)

Example - City of Brandon Bylaw (population about 46,000; flat rate limit/no formula)

Mayor - \$16,000

Council candidate - \$4,000

### *Other notes on expense limits in Manitoba*

Third party advertising is not specifically regulated or subject to expense limits. However, in the City of Winnipeg, expenses incurred by any individual, corporation, organization or trade union “acting on behalf of” a registered candidate count against the candidate’s expense limit.

Winnipeg has had spending limits since 1990. Enforcement is essentially a local matter.

## Saskatchewan

The Province **allows** municipalities to adopt a bylaw with campaign expense limits; the municipality chooses the limits

Example - City of Regina bylaw. Set limit (no formula specified in bylaw, though probable that a formula involving population was used to arrive at the limit)

Mayor - \$62,635

Council candidate - \$10,439

## Newfoundland & Labrador

The Province **allows** municipalities to adopt a bylaw with campaign expense limits; the municipality chooses the limits. Candidates do not actually have to file an accounting of their expenses; they instead declare that they did not exceed the limits.

Example - City of St. John’s bylaw.

Mayor and councillor candidates - \$10,000 base amount, plus \$1 per voter listed on the voters list in the ward or at-large area. Works out to around \$80,000 for mayors and \$25,000 for councillors.





The Village of  
**PORT CLEMENTS**  
*"Gateway to the Wilderness"*

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V0T1R0  
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Email : [office@portclements.ca](mailto:office@portclements.ca)  
Web : [www.portclements.ca](http://www.portclements.ca)

December 24, 2013

To: SQCRD

Re: Letter of Support

The Village of Port Clements will be submitting an application to Gwaii Trust Major Infrastructure for \$100,000 towards the construction of a barge facility in the Industrial park in Port Clements. In 2013 the Village of Port Clements commissioned KPMG to complete a Business Case for the facility to ensure that the financial picture supported the concept. An electronic copy of this report is available if you have not already seen it. The facility will cost approximately \$4.2 million and the Village of Port Clements has several other funding applications in the queue for this project. We strongly feel this project will provide economic benefits to all communities on Haida Gwaii.

We would be happy to speak with your Council further about this project if they wish.

Thank you for your support.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Kim Mushynsky". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first letters of the first and last names being capitalized and prominent.

Kim Mushynsky – CAO  
Village of Port Clements



Reference: 200094

January 9, 2014

Dear Mayors, Regional District Chairs and Directors:

**RE: Provincial and local governments working together to protect biodiversity.**

I am writing to provide you with an overview and update on the work of the Species and Ecosystems at Risk (SEAR) Local Government Working Group. As you may know, this group was initiated in 2009 by the BC Ministry of Environment to work with local governments to enhance habitat protection for species and ecosystems at risk on private lands and local government lands in BC. The Ministry of Environment recognises the importance of a shared stewardship approach and the key role that local governments play in the protection of biodiversity, particularly on private lands.

An important accomplishment of the group has been the joint publication, in 2011, of the Discussion Paper *Working Together to Protect Species at Risk: Strategies Recommended by Local Government to Improve Conservation on Municipal, Regional and Private Lands in British Columbia*. The Discussion Paper contains 45 recommendations from local governments for the provincial government, Union of British Columbia Municipalities (UBCM) and local governments. These recommendations were formally endorsed by the UBCM in March 2012 (see attached newsletter).

Although the Discussion Paper was a major milestone for the group, they have continued to make progress and the Ministry of Environment continues to support their work (see attached letter of support). To date, there are over 140 participants, including 24 regional districts and over 60 municipalities. The group has become a forum for communication on SEAR, providing opportunities for sharing lessons learned and encouraging networking on SEAR issues within and between regions in BC. In the words of one of the participants, Wayne Stetski, Mayor of Cranbrook, *"It's a great group dealing with an important issue"*.

This year, following one of the recommendations within the Discussion Paper, the Ministry of Environment sponsored a UBCM Community Excellence Award in the Leadership and Innovation category to highlight the great work that communities have undertaken to protect biodiversity in their regions. The award, announced at the September 2013 UBCM Convention, was presented to the District of Tofino for their contribution toward stewardship of an important mudflats ecosystem. Congratulations to Mayor Josie Osborne and all the partners who were involved with this initiative.

Ministry of Environment

Ecosystems Branch

Mailing Address:  
PO Box 9338 Stn Prov Govt  
Victoria BC V8W 9M1

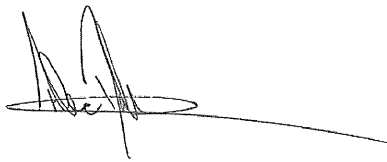
Telephone: 250 387-9731  
Facsimile: 250 387-9750  
Website: [www.gov.bc.ca/env](http://www.gov.bc.ca/env)

In October of this year, the Ministry of Environment and the South Coast Conservation Program, with a grant from the Real Estate Foundation of BC, hosted the third annual SEAR Local Government Working Group Symposium in Richmond. The symposium was a great success with about 65 participants attending to discuss SEAR-related incentives and other tools to enhance habitat protection on private and local government lands. Day two included regional discussions on SEAR and a field trip to Terra Nova in Richmond.

The work of the SEAR Local Government Working group provides an excellent example of how we can work together to accomplish mutually beneficial objectives. In conclusion, I would like to encourage the continued participation of both staff and elected representatives from your jurisdiction if you are already involved, and invite you to consider joining us if your jurisdiction is not already participating.

For more information on the SEAR Local Government Working Group please visit the website [http://www.env.gov.bc.ca/wld/sear\\_l\\_gwg/](http://www.env.gov.bc.ca/wld/sear_l_gwg/) or contact Lynn Campbell, Species at Risk Biologist, Ministry of Environment, at [Lynn.Campbell@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Lynn.Campbell@gov.bc.ca).

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Alec Dale', with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

Alec Dale  
Executive Director

Attachments:

1. UBCM formal endorsement of the Discussion Paper recommendations by local governments
2. Letter of support for the SEAR LGWG from Ministry of Environment



Reference: 177121

September 4, 2012

To: The Species and Ecosystems at Risk Local Government Working Group Members and Associates

I would like to acknowledge the Local Government Working Group for your efforts in developing the Discussion Paper; *Working Together to Protect Species and Ecosystems at Risk: Strategies Recommended by Local Government to Improve Conservation on Municipal, Regional and Private Lands in British Columbia (BC)*.

My thanks on behalf of the Province to each of the Working Group members including the support of elected officials, and the communities that you represent, for your ongoing dedication to this unique partnership between the Province, UBCM and local governments.

The Discussion Paper is an important piece of work to help the Province develop policy that is consistent with the needs of British Columbia's local governments. To this end, the paper was included as a submission as part of the background supporting materials for the Provincial Species at Risk Task Force. The recommendations from the paper will also be considered by the Province in the future planning for species at risk in BC.

I also appreciate the on-going input and engagement of local governments through the provincial Species at Risk Working Group to clarify an approach for species and ecosystems at risk protection in the context of local government and private land.

Sincerely,

Alec Dale  
A\Executive Director

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## Species at Risk: Local Government Discussion Paper

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**I**n February, UBCM reviewed the Species at Risk Local Government Working Group discussion paper, *Working Together to Protect Species at Risk*. This paper was designed to raise awareness, align resources for shared priorities, outline options for local government engagement, and identify tools for species at risk protection. The paper identifies some key concerns around local governments and species at risk protection, and offers a series of recommendations to the Province under five key strategies:

- Increase local government awareness of species at risk.
- Facilitate use of effective tools and techniques.
- Identify and collaborate on shared responsibilities.
- Conduct ecosystem mapping and encourage data sharing.
- Engage landowners in species at risk habitat protection.

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Continued on page 10

## ENVIRONMENT POLICY IN BRIEF

*Continued from page 9*

Within these strategies, there are also several recommendations that highlight what UBCM could do to help facilitate species at risk protection.

The Executive endorsed the recommendations in the paper, and will be convey to the Province the need for provincial leadership in both enacting strong species at risk protection legislation and providing the necessary resources for addressing species at risk protection; and the need for provincial monitoring of the cost incurred by local governments in implementing any of the strategies contained with the species at risk discussion paper, should local governments choose to implement said strategies.

The discussion paper is available online at <http://www.env.gov.bc.ca/wld/documents/SAR%20Paper%20January%202011%20FINAL.pdf> or you can find it on the Ministry of Environment website under Ecosystems Branch, Stewardship Information "Read the discussion paper" link.

To date, 13 regional districts and 35 municipalities have been contacted and 60 local government staff and elected officials have joined the working group. For more information please contact Lynn Campbell (250) 387-9676, Lynn.Campbell@gov.bc.ca or Jennifer Heron (604) 222-6759, Jennifer.Heron@gov.bc.ca "



January 10, 2014

Barry Pages, Chair  
Skeena-Queen Charlotte Regional District  
100 – First Avenue East  
Prince Rupert, BC V8J 1A6

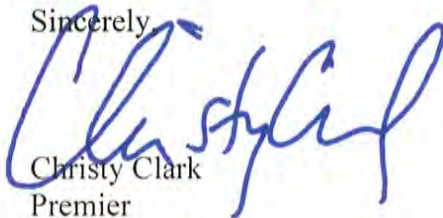
Dear Mr. Pages:

Thank you for your letter regarding the recent BC Ferries' service announcement. I know that this issue is of great importance to your community.

Unfortunately, my schedule will not afford me the opportunity to meet with you on this matter in the foreseeable future; however, I have shared your correspondence with the Honourable Todd Stone, Minister of Transportation and Infrastructure. Minister Todd Stone is awaiting the completion of the community engagement process before determining what the next steps should be regarding ferry services. He will include your notice of concerns as part of this process.

Again, thank you for writing. I wish you all the best in 2014.

Sincerely,



Christy Clark  
Premier

pc: Honourable Todd Stone





Selina Robinson, MLA  
(Coquitlam-Maillardville)



Province of  
British Columbia  
Legislative Assembly

Selina Robinson, MLA  
(Coquitlam – Maillardville)  
Room 201, Parliament Buildings  
Victoria, BC V8V 1X4

Community Office:  
102 – 1108 Austin Avenue  
Coquitlam, BC V3K 3P5  
Phone: 604 933-2001  
Facsimile: 604 933-2002

January 16, 2014

RECEIVED

JAN 21 2014

SKEENA-QUEEN CHARLOTTE  
REGIONAL DISTRICT

His Worship Mayor Barry Pages, Chair  
and Members of the Board  
Skeena-Queen Charlotte Regional District  
100 1st Avenue East  
Prince Rupert, BC V8J 1A6

Dear Chair Pages and Board Members,

Happy New Year. I hope that 2014 is a year of good health and good governance for you all.

As you are likely aware, the Province intends to introduce the long awaited Local Elections Campaign Financing Act during the upcoming Spring 2014 legislative session. These proposed changes stem from the 2010 recommendations made by the Local Government Elections Task Force and represent the first major changes to municipal elections in many years. I am writing to seek your feedback on the proposed bill and offer myself as your representative in the upcoming legislative debate as the Opposition Critic for Local Government.

The changes that are being proposed are noted in a number of documents that can be found on the Ministry of Community, Sport and Cultural Development website:

- Report of the Local Government Elections Task Force – May 2010
- White Paper on Local Government Election Reform – September 2013
- Summary of Consultation Comments – November 2013
- Expense Limits Discussion paper – November 2013

There has been a long history of attempts to introduce legislation stemming from these recommendations. In July 2010, the Province announced that it had been given the 'green light' to implement the recommendations of the Task Force. Then in April 2011, the Province announced that it would not proceed with implementing those changes for the 2011 municipal election because there would not be sufficient time to inform all stakeholders of the changes in advance. In the Spring 2014 Legislative session we will be debating these proposed changes in the months leading up to a municipal election.



page...2 – continued

You will note that a key recommendation of the Local Government Elections Task Force – the establishment of campaign expense limits – is not included in these proposed changes. The Province has decided that more study is needed and they are seeking feedback on their November 2013 Expense Limits Discussion paper by January 31, 2014, for implementation in advance of the November 2017 municipal election.

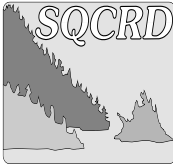
Following these years of consultation, I invite you to share any thoughts and concerns you might have about these proposed changes with me, so that I am able to seek clarification and, if necessary, changes through debate in the legislature. The best way to reach me is by email [Selina.robinson.mla@leg.bc.ca](mailto:Selina.robinson.mla@leg.bc.ca)

Thank you for your attention and I look forward to hearing from you. Please do not hesitate to contact me on any matters of concern to your local government.

All the best,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Selina Robinson".

Selina Robinson, MLA  
Official Opposition Critic for Local Government and Sports



## STAFF REPORT

**DATE:** January 24, 2014  
**FROM:** Joanne Fraser, Deputy Treasurer  
**SUBJECT:** Board Resolution Amendment – November 22, 2013

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### Recommendation:

**THAT the Board receives the staff report “Board Resolution Amendment – November 22, 2013 Meeting;**

**AND THAT staff be provided with direction.**

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### Background:

Resolution No. 387-2013 resulting from the November 22, 2013 Board meeting was adopted as follows (see Attachment 1):

*MOVED by Director Putterill, SECONDED by Director Racz, that, with respect to the annual grant for the Moresby Island Management Committee, the contribution from Electoral Area Administration be capped at \$23,000 and any additional funding, if required, be funded by Electoral Area E only.*

### Discussion:

Unfortunately, when the November Board minutes were transcribed, the second clause of the actual resolution made was inadvertently dropped and the minutes were adopted. The actual resolution made at the meeting was as follows:

*MOVED by Director Putterill, SECONDED by Director Racz, that, with respect to the annual grant for the Moresby Island Management Committee, the contribution from Electoral Area Administration be capped at \$23,000 and any additional funding, if required, be funded by Electoral Area E only;*

***AND THAT, if the annual grant requested by the MIMC is less than \$35,000, funding be allocated two thirds from Electoral Area Administration and one third from Electoral Area E.***

Staff Recommendation:

In order to rectify the error and to ensure both clauses of the intended resolution stay together, staff recommends the Board:

1. Rescind Resolution No. 387-2013.
2. Adopt the following:

*MOVED by Director Putterill, SECONDED by Director Racz, that, with respect to the annual grant for the Moresby Island Management Committee, the contribution from Electoral Area Administration be capped at \$23,000 and any additional funding, if required, be funded by Electoral Area E only;*

*AND THAT, if the annual grant requested by the MIMC is less than \$35,000, funding be allocated two thirds from Electoral Area Administration and one third from Electoral Area E.*

- 8.5 J. Merrick, Chief Administrative Officer – Moresby Island Management Committee Follow-up

MOVED by Director Putterill, SECONDED by Director Franzen, that the Board receives the staff report “Moresby Island Management Committee Follow-up”;

AND THAT a set amount of the annual grant for the Moresby Island Management Committee be funded from the overall Electoral Area Administration function.

**386-2013**

**CARRIED**

MOVED by Director Putterill, SECONDED by Director Racz, that, with respect to the annual grant for the Moresby Island Management Committee, the contribution from Electoral Area Administration be capped at \$23,000 and any additional funding, if required, be funded by Electoral Area E only.

**387-2013**

**CARRIED**

- 8.6 J. Merrick, CAO – Industrial Development in the Region

MOVED by Director Kulesha, SECONDED by Director Putterill, that a letter be sent to the Premier, the Ministry of Environment, the Ministry of Community, Sport and Cultural Development, and the Ministry of Liquid Natural Gas Development expressing the Board’s concern over the lack of sufficient and meaningful input into the environmental assessment processes of the various, large-scale industrial development projects, given the Regional District’s limited resources and capacity.

**388-2013**

**CARRIED**

- 8.7 J. Robb, Treasurer – Follow-up on Accountability – Grants in Aid

MOVED by Director Ashley, SECONDED by Director Franzen, that the Board receives the staff report “Follow-up on Accountability – Grants in Aid” for information.

**389-2013**

**CARRIED**

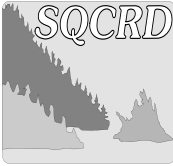
- 8.8 J. Robb, Treasurer – Services & Taxation Limits

MOVED by Director Ashley, SECONDED by Director Kulesha, that the Board receives the staff report “Services & Taxation Limits”;

AND THAT the Mainland Solid Waste Management Local Service Area Bylaw No. 270, 1994 and the Skeena-Queen Charlotte Regional District Queen Charlotte Island Solid Waste Management Regulation, Fees and Charges Bylaw No. 276, 1995 be amended to increase taxation limits by 25%.

**390-2013**

**CARRIED**



## STAFF REPORT

**DATE:** January 24, 2014  
**FROM:** Joan Merrick, Chief Administrative Officer  
**SUBJECT:** Updated 2014 Board Schedule

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**Recommendation:**

**THAT the Chief administrative Officer's report entitled "Updated 2014 Board Schedule" be received;**

**AND THAT the attached meeting schedule be adopted for 2014:**

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**Background:**

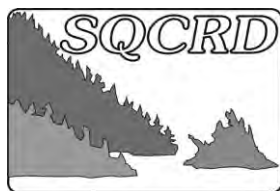
At the November 22, 2013 SQCRD regular board meeting, a resolution was passed confirming the board meeting schedule up to January 24, 2014, so as to allow time to coordinate future meeting dates with the NW Regional Hospital District Board.

**Discussion:**

The NW Regional Hospital District meeting dates have since been confirmed with the Kitimat-Stikine Regional District and staff is proposing the attached 2014 board meeting schedule be adopted.

As such, an updated 2014 board meeting schedule has been attached. Staff is suggesting that the April 25<sup>th</sup>, 2014 SQCRD regular board meeting be held on Haida Gwaii and that the June 20<sup>th</sup>, 2013 SQCRD regular board meeting be held in Dodge Cove.





## SKEENA-QUEEN CHARLOTTE REGIONAL DISTRICT

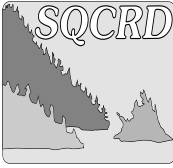
2014 BOARD SCHEDULE

	<u>Date</u>	<u>Meeting Type</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>Location</u>
	<b>January 24th</b>	<b>SQCRD Regular Board</b>	<b>7:00 PM</b>	<b>Prince Rupert</b>
		NW Regional Hospital District		Terrace
*	February 21st	SQCRD Regular Board	7:00 PM	Teleconference
Sat	February 22nd (1/2 day)	SQCRD Special Board (Budget)	9:00 AM	Teleconference
Sat	March 8th (1/2 day)	SQCRD Special Board (Budget)	9:00 AM	Teleconference
*	<b>March 21st</b>	<b>SQCRD Regular Board</b>	<b>7:00 PM</b>	<b>Prince Rupert</b>
		NW Regional Hospital District		Terrace
*	<b>April 25th</b>	<b>SQCRD Regular Board</b>	<b>7:00 PM</b>	<b>Haida Gwaii</b>
	May 7th - 9th	NCLGA AGM and Convention		Fort St. John, BC
*	<b>May 23rd</b>	<b>SQCRD Regular Board</b>	<b>7:00 PM</b>	<b>Prince Rupert</b>
		NW Regional Hospital District		Terrace
*	June 20th	SQCRD Regular Board	7:00 PM	Dodge Cove
	July	No meeting scheduled		
*	<b>August 8th</b>	<b>SQCRD Regular Board</b>	<b>7:00 PM</b>	<b>Prince Rupert</b>
		NW Regional Hospital District		Terrace
*	September 19th	SQCRD Regular Board	7:00 PM	Prince Rupert
	September 22nd - 26th	UBCM Convention		Whistler
*	October 17th	SQCRD Regular Board	7:00 PM	Teleconference
	November 15th	Local Government Elections in BC		- - -
*	<b>November 21st</b>	<b>SQCRD Regular Board</b>	<b>7:00 PM</b>	<b>Prince Rupert</b>
		NW Regional Hospital District		Terrace
	December 12th	SQCRD Statutory Board	7:00 PM	Prince Rupert
	December 12th	SQC Reg. Hospital Dist. Board	Following RD Stat	Prince Rupert
*	December 12th	SQCRD Regular Board	Following RHD	Prince Rupert

Notes:

\* Depicts the Regular SQCRD Board meetings.

Dates in bold coincide with the North West Regional Hospital District Board meetings.



## STAFF REPORT

**DATE:** January 24, 2014  
**FROM:** Daniel Fish, Deputy Corporate Officer  
**SUBJECT:** NCLGA Resolution Amendment

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### Recommendation:

**THAT** the Board receives the staff report “NCLGA Resolution Amendment”;

**AND THAT** Resolution No. 414-2013 regarding 2014 resolution submissions to the North Central Local Government Association be amended as follows:

### 2. LNG Project in Northern British Columbia

- In the third paragraph:
    1. Following “THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT”, insert “the North Central Local Government Association”;
    2. Insert “LNG” preceding “plan”; and
    3. Delete “northwest” preceding “British Columbia”
- 

### Background:

At the December 13, 2013 SQCRD regular board meeting, the following resolution was passed:

MOVED by Director Nobels, SECONDED by Director Putterill, that the staff report entitled “Draft Resolutions to North Central Local Government Association” be received;

AND THAT the following resolutions be sent to the North Central Local Government Association:

#### 1. BC Assessment Authority

WHEREAS limited and infrequent property sales may not accurately reflect market values in many rural areas of British Columbia;

AND WHEREAS the BC Assessment Authority is legislated to use mandated formulas based on market data when assessing residential properties, and this has historically contributed to

significant shifts in the assessed values of properties in some rural communities;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Union of BC Municipalities urge the Provincial Government to provide BC Assessment Authority with more flexibility when assessing properties in rural British Columbia.

2. LNG Projects in Northern British Columbia

WHEREAS the Province is actively supporting the development of Liquefied Natural Gas (LNG) as British Columbia's future economic driver;

AND WHEREAS multiple proposals and applications for LNG and other large scale industrial projects are creating a drain on the limited resources of many small communities and regional districts;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Union of BC Municipalities urge the Provincial Government to develop a plan to provide immediate and meaningful assistance to local governments in northwest British Columbia to address the issue.

**414-2013**

**CARRIED**

**Discussion:**

Through recent correspondence with NCLGA officials, it was suggested that the Board consider making the following amendments to the resolution regarding LNG projects:

2. LNG Projects in Northern British Columbia

- In the third paragraph:
  1. Following "THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT", insert "the North Central Local Government Association";
  2. Insert "LNG" preceding "plan"; and
  3. Delete "northwest" preceding "British Columbia".



**Haida Gwaii Recreation Coordinator's Report**  
**Month End: December 2013**  
**Submitted By: Lucy Neville**

The HG Recreation Commission has four categories, from September to June, that our programs fall into; Registered Programs, Drop-In Programs, Movies and Community Events. We also assist in obtaining rental spaces and advertising help for community members.

**Registered Programs**

**Bike Re-Psych Repair Workshops** – the Bike Re-Psych crew held two Wednesday repair group at the **Queen Charlotte** high school shop room in December; participation totalled **11** greasemonkeys and their refurbished rides.

**Shito Ryu Karate** – with belt tests, a visit from Sensei Sato to review club process, and the arrival of new uniforms, this program had a busy December with its **41** participants, and the club continued to train every Tuesday and Thursday in **Queen Charlotte**.

**Body Burn** – a combination of plyometrics, cardio and core, this high-intensity class runs every Monday and Wednesday in **Queen Charlotte** with instructor Angela Gross. A total of **58** participants committed to work it out in November.

**Beginner Bellydance** – a rotating session of introductory instructors allowed this program to continue running right to Christmas at the HG Rec building in **Masset**. This course had a total of **53** music-loving dancers throughout the month of December.

**Elders Engagement: Food and Fitness** – this no-cost community program, which includes Tai Chi, Radha Yoga, Alternate Fitness and Indian Cooking classes, had a total of **165** participants throughout the month of December in the Multiplex building and grounds in **Port Clements**. Designed to increase socialization, community infrastructure, fitness and intergenerational engagement, this program was created with the Rec Coordinator for seniors, by seniors, and is open to plus-ones from spouses to grandkids.

**Alternate Fitness** – led by elder instructor Harold White, this clinician-based program is designed for those living with, or at risk for, chronic conditions such as diabetes, rheumatoid and osteo-arthritis, obesity, and/or returning from injury. Many of the **13** participants attend with a prescription to do so from their doctors or physicians, and this 19-year program has continued in large part due to the rave reviews from medical professionals, resident and locum doctors, who

have documented benefits in attendees ranging from reduced blood pressure, increased mobility, decreased joint pain, and increased musculature. It runs every Tuesday and Thursday at the HG Rec Building in **Masset** until December 19<sup>th</sup>.

**Acrobatic Dance** – this gymnastic- and parkour-inspired class, instructed by longtime dancer and gymnast Kirsten Oike, ran twice weekly at Sk'aadga Naay Elementary in **Skidegate** and the **Port Clements** Elementary, with a total of **44** enthusiastic youth in December.

**HardCore Circuit** – Rugby Canada instructor Genevieve Gay taught this interval circuit class, focusing on high-intensity tabata-based cardio and core strength, twice weekly to the end of December each Monday and Wednesday at the HG Rec Building in **Masset**, with a total of **45** participants.

### **Drop In Programs**

Haida Gwaii Rec. provides insurance and First Aid to all volunteers willing to run drop in programs throughout the school year at all island schools. Volunteers collect toonies to cover the School District 50 rental fee, and are charged per course for any incurred equipment damages. To register a sport for drop-in, a valid and current First Aid certificate is required.

### **Queen Charlotte Secondary School Gym – *CLOSED DECEMBER 18 – JANUARY 14***

Mondays:

Pickleball / Badminton 7:00 – 9:00

Tuesdays:

Indoor Soccer 8:00 – 10:00

Wednesdays:

Youth Dodgeball 6:30 – 8:00

Adult Dodgeball 8:00 – 10:00

Thursdays:

Volleyball 8:00 – 10:00

### **Port Clements Elementary School Gym**

Thursdays:

Soccer 8:00 – 10:00

### **George M. Dawson Secondary School Gym**

Mondays:

Volleyball 7:00 – 9:00



Wednesdays:  
Men's Basketball 7:00 – 9:00

Fridays:  
Senior Men's Basketball 7:00 – 9:00

### **Events and Affiliated Programs**

#### **ASSAI 2013-2014 Programs**

Our two ASSAI coordinators, Tiffany Scholey and Layla Rorick, have built upon three years of programs and initiated new developments within schools in **Masset, Old Massett, Port Clements, Skidegate, Queen Charlotte** and **Sandspit**. Below are their participation totals for December programs:

Surf Club (all-island) – 9  
Gymnastics (TAH) – 46  
Weave and Play (ALM) - 44  
Our Space, Our Art (QCYC) – 9  
Art and Action (SNES) – 133  
Dance Party (PCES) – 18  
Food and Fitness (PCES) – 12  
Dance Party (TAH) – 16  
Teen Gym (GMD) – 39

Total: **326**

**Total December 2013 participants in HG Rec programs/events: 756**

***Total December 2012 participants in HG Rec programs/events: 590***

### **Upcoming Spring Classes**

**Alternate Fitness** – Heather Brule will begin instructing this free modified fitness class in **Sandspit** at the Community Hall and **Skidegate** in the George Brown Rec Centre, beginning mid-January.

**Geocaching and Golfing** – As part of our Elders Engagement project, an eight-week program of alternating Geocaching and Golfing will begin in the end of January, alternating locations in **Masset** and **Sandspit**. This program is led by Fran Fowler and Ruth Bellamy, and is built on community consultation with elders.

**Public Speaking 101** – led by Toastmaster Ellen Cranston, this course focuses on the development of foundational public speaking skills, and includes additional Etiquette and Respect in the Workplace lessons; it will be held in **Queen Charlotte** in early 2014.

**Circuit Fitness** – **Sandspit**, grab your sneakers, water bottle and motivating music! Heather Brule will be instructing an interval fitness class each Monday at the ALM Gym from 7-8 pm, beginning January 20<sup>th</sup>.

**Movie Night** – screenings of the cartoon comedy ‘Free Birds’ will be shown across Haida Gwaii in **Masset, Port Clements, Queen Charlotte** and **Sandspit** this coming January and February.

**BOAT Exam** – the updated Transport Canada-approved BOAT exams will continue to be offered in **Masset, Queen Charlotte** and **Port Clements** upon request.

### **Additional Projects and Reporting**

#### **Soccer BC Training and Certification**

The HG Rec Coordinator has successfully applied for funding to bring Soccer BC ActiveStart and FUNdamentals coaching training to Haida Gwaii from March 7-10, 2014. This two-day program will be free for all island coaches and youth mentors, and teaches the basics of instructing soccer to youth ages 4-9, for league structures of U4-U6 (ActiveStart) and U7-U9 (FUNdamentals). Haida Gwaii is fortunate to have a committed group of volunteer parents, guardians and youth who donate their time to further the sport of soccer on-island, and this funding application and program was created out of a community desire for training and standardized certification. The training is a combination of theory and practice, and will be held at the Port Clements Elementary Gym and fields; travel subsidies are available for all driving from other communities.

#### **Fit for Life Community Circuit**

The HG Rec Coordinator is developing a proposal in collaboration with the Village of Masset, to create a Fit for Life Community Circuit. This circuit will be built upon infrastructure at the existing barracks on the Greater Masset Development Corporation property; the site is currently slated to be disassembled, including existing buildings and site features, and a letter of request to retain specified infrastructure has been submitted to the GMDC board. The proposed project will see a covered walkway created and connected to the sidewalk circling the soccer fields, totalling a circuit approximately 1.25 km in length. Upon completion, installation of age-friendly fitness equipment will take place and a BCRPA-certified instructor will begin Fit for Life classes free to the community. With approval from GMDC and a resolution from the Village of Masset Council, the Rec Coordinator will submit a proposal to the UBCM Seniors’ Support program.

#### **ASSI Coordination Transition**

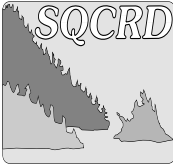
South-end ASSI Coordinator Layla Rorick submitted a notice of resignation on December 23, 2013, to pursue an educational opportunity off-island on January 8<sup>th</sup>, 2014. ASSI programs were booked to begin again January 6<sup>th</sup> in Skidegate and Queen Charlotte, and with the goal of maintaining program integrity, the HG Rec Coordinator offered the position to one of our south-end ASSI instructors, Paula Varnell, who has been extensively involved in the ASSI program since September. We would like to welcome Ms. Varnell to the HG ASSI program, and look forward to continuing the rest of the 2013/2014 school year with her.

**ASSI Community Forum Presentation**

This is the fourth year of the HG ASSI project, which designs and implements free sports and arts programs for children and youth aged 5-18, from Sandspit to Masset. Following its 2012 Premier's Award nomination, the HG ASSI program has continued to set the bar for innovative programming and inter-agency collaboration. The HG Rec Coordinator has been asked to present at this years' province-wide ASSI Community Forum, held in Vancouver from February 27-28, 2014.

*Lucy Neville*

**Haida Gwaii Recreation Coordinator**



## STAFF REPORT

**DATE:** January 24, 2014

**FROM:** Joan Merrick, Chief Administrative Officer

**SUBJECT:** Jungle Beach Update

### Recommendation:

**THAT the Board receives the staff report “Jungle Beach Update” for information.**

### BACKGROUND:

Jungle Beach is located in the vicinity of “Halibut Bight” in Lawn Hill (Haida Gwaii). It was established as a park in 2001 under a ten-year License of Occupation with the Province (file #635218) which was renewed for a 30 year term in 2012. In 2001, the Regional District entered into an agreement with the Lawn Hill Community Association (LHCA) that gave the LHCA the “use of land situated on DL 281 (Jungle Beach) for the purpose of the operation of recreation and other community services”. That agreement states the “expenses for operation and maintenance of the buildings and property will be entirely financed by the LHCA by user fees and other fundraising (without taxation)”.

Through a Gwaii Trust grant the LHCA installed a picnic shelter and outdoor toilets on the site. A dedicated group of volunteers has undertaken regular inspection and maintenance of the facilities for the past 12 years. However, the ongoing maintenance has become a burden to the community as the number of volunteers has declined over the years.

Staff previously reported this issue to the Board in August 2013 and was directed to explore options including approaching BC Parks and /or Highways to take over the site.

### DISCUSSION:

Staff has been in contact with both BC Parks and Highways. Both have shown an interest in seeing that this important community asset continues and have offered to support the Regional District by entering into partnership agreement to maintain the Jungle Beach site.

The agreement would be for 13 Months (Feb 1, 2014 to March 3, 2015) on a trial basis. The Regional District will provide a small grant to cover some expenses such as pumping out the toilets; and Parks and Highways will provide new signage, a replacement picnic table, gravel to improve the road, as well, they will provide ongoing inspection and maintenance of the site for the duration of the agreement.

**SKEENA-QUEEN CHARLOTTE REGIONAL DISTRICT  
BYLAW NO. 560, 2013**

Being a bylaw to amend the Graham Island Interim Zoning Bylaw No. 192, 1993

The Skeena-Queen Charlotte Regional District in open meeting assembled enacts as follows:

1. Map Schedule A1 of the Electoral Area "D" Graham Island Interim Zoning Bylaw 192,1993 is amended by:
  - (a) changing the zoning on the Fractional NE ¼ of DL 830A Queen Charlotte District Except Plan 11017, Parcel Identifier 015-633-012, from "Park and Public Use District , P-1 to the Agriculture-Forestry District, A-1, shown on Schedule 1, attached hereto;
2. This Bylaw may be cited as the Graham Island Interim Zoning Amendment Bylaw No. 560, 2013.

READ A FIRST TIME this 22<sup>nd</sup> day of November, 2013.

READ A SECOND TIME this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_ 2013.

*Public hearing waived pursuant to section 890 (4) of the Local Government Act.*

READ A THIRD TIME this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_ 2013.

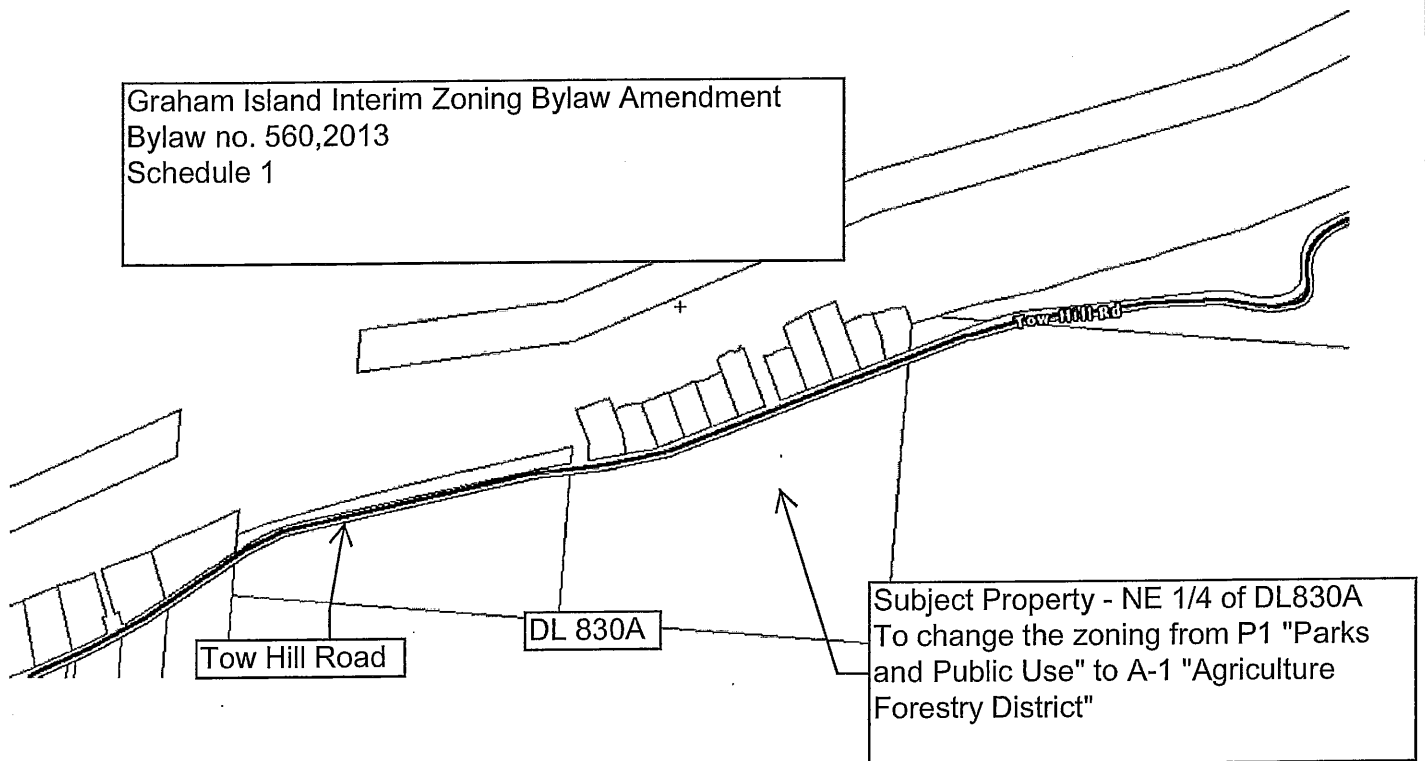
RECONSIDERED AND  
ADOPTED this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_ 2013.

\_\_\_\_\_  
B. Pages  
Chair

\_\_\_\_\_  
J. Merrick  
Chief Administrative Officer



Bylaw No. 560, 2013 – Graham Island Interim Zoning Bylaw Amendment  
Schedule 1



## SKEENA-QUEEN CHARLOTTE REGIONAL DISTRICT

## Security Issuing Bylaw No. 574, 2014

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A bylaw to authorize the entering into of an Agreement respecting financing between the Skeena-Queen Charlotte Regional District and the Municipal Finance Authority of British Columbia

---

WHEREAS the City of Prince Rupert is a member municipality of the Skeena-Queen Charlotte Regional District (the "Regional District");

AND WHEREAS the Regional District is to finance from time to time on behalf of and at the sole cost of the member municipality, under the provisions of Section 824 of the *Local Government Act*, the works to be financed pursuant to the following loan authorization bylaw:

Loan Authorization Bylaw	Purpose	Amount of Borrowing Authorized	Amount Already Borrowed	Borrowing Authority Remaining	Term of Issue	Amount of Issue
Bylaw No. 3333, 2013	City of Prince Rupert	\$7,000,000	\$ 0	\$7,000,000	20 years	\$7,000,000
		<u>\$7,000,000</u>	<u>\$ 0</u>	<u>\$7,000,000</u>		<u>\$7,000,000</u>

**Total Financing under Section 824: \$ 7,000,000**

AND WHEREAS the Regional Board, by this bylaw, hereby requests such financing shall be undertaken through the Authority:

NOW THEREFORE the Regional Board of the Skeena-Queen Charlotte Regional District in open meeting assembled enacts as follows:

1. The Regional Board hereby consents to financing the debt of the City of Prince Rupert in the amount of Seven Million Dollars (\$7,000,000) in accordance with the following terms.
2. The Authority is hereby requested and authorized to finance from time to time the aforesaid undertakings at the sole cost and on behalf of the Regional District and its member municipality up to, but not exceeding Seven Million Dollars (\$7,000,000) in lawful money of Canada (provided that the Regional District may borrow all or part of such amount in such currency as the Trustees of the Authority shall determine but the aggregate amount in lawful money of Canada and in Canadian Dollar equivalents so borrowed shall not exceed \$7,000,000 (in Canadian Dollars) at such interest and with such discounts or premiums and expenses as the Authority may deem appropriate in consideration of the market and economic conditions pertaining.

3. Upon completion by the Authority of financing undertaken pursuant hereto, the Chair and officer assigned the responsibility of financial administration of the Regional District, on behalf of the Regional District and under its seal shall, at such time or times as the Trustees of the Authority may request, enter into and deliver to the Authority one or more agreements, which said agreement or agreements shall be substantially in the form annexed hereto as Schedule "A" and made part of this bylaw (such Agreement or Agreements as may be entered into, delivered or substituted hereinafter referred to as the "Agreement") providing for payment by the Regional District to the Authority of the amounts required to meet the obligations of the Authority with respect to its borrowings undertaken pursuant hereto, which Agreement shall rank as debenture debt of the Regional District.
4. The Agreement in the form of Schedule "A" shall be dated and payable in the principal amount or amounts of monies and in Canadian dollars or as the Authority shall determine and subject to the *Local Government Act*, in such currency or currencies as shall be borrowed by the Authority under Section 1 and shall set out the schedule of repayment of the principal amount together with interest on unpaid amounts as shall be determined by the Treasurer of the Authority.
5. The obligation incurred under the said Agreement shall bear interest from a date specified therein, which date shall be determined by the Treasurer of the Authority, and shall bear interest at a rate to be determined by the Treasurer of the Authority.
6. The Agreement shall be sealed with the seal of the Regional District and shall bear the signature of the Chair and the officer assigned the responsibility of financial administration of the Regional District.
7. The obligations incurred under the said Agreement as to both principal and interest shall be payable at the Head Office of the Authority in Victoria and at such time or times as shall be determined by the Treasurer of the Authority.
8. During the currency of the obligation incurred under the said Agreement to secure borrowings in respect of the City of Prince Rupert Airport Authority Agreement Loan Authorization Bylaw No. 3333, 2013, there shall be requisitioned annually an amount sufficient to meet the annual payment of interest and the repayment of principal.
9. The Regional District shall provide and pay over to the Authority such sums as are required to discharge its obligations in accordance with the terms of the Agreement, provided, however, if the sums provided for in the Agreement are not sufficient to meet the obligations of the Authority, any deficiency in meeting such obligations shall be a liability of the Regional District to the Authority and the Regional Board of the Regional District shall make due provision to discharge such liability.
10. The Regional District shall pay over to the Authority at such time or times as the Treasurer of the Authority so directs such sums as are required pursuant to section 15 of the *Municipal Finance Authority Act* to be paid into the Debt Reserve Fund established by the Authority in connection with the financing undertaken by the Authority on behalf of the Regional District pursuant to the Agreement.
11. This bylaw may be cited as "*Skeena-Queen Charlotte Regional District Security Issuing Bylaw No. 574, 2014*".

READ A FIRST TIME this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2014.

READ A SECOND TIME this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2014.

READ A THIRD TIME this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2014.

FINALLY ADOPTED this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2014.

\_\_\_\_\_  
B. Pages  
Chair

\_\_\_\_\_  
J. Merrick  
Chief Administrative Officer

SCHEDULE "A" to BYLAW NO. 574, 2014

C A N A D A

PROVINCE OF BRITISH COLUMBIA

A G R E E M E N T

Skeena-Queen Charlotte Regional District

The Skeena-Queen Charlotte Regional District (the "Regional District") hereby promises to pay to the Municipal Finance Authority of British Columbia at its Head Office in Victoria, British Columbia, (the "Authority") the sum of Seven Million Dollars (\$7,000,000) in lawful money of Canada, together with interest calculated semi-annually in each and every year during the currency of this Agreement; and payments shall be as specified in the table appearing on the reverse hereof commencing on the day of \_\_\_\_\_, provided that in the event the payments of principal and interest hereunder are insufficient to satisfy the obligations of the Authority undertaken on behalf of the Regional District, the Regional District shall pay over to the Authority further sums as are sufficient to discharge the obligations of the Regional District to the Authority.

DATED at \_\_\_\_\_, British Columbia, this \_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF and under the authority of Bylaw No. 574, 2014 cited as the "*Skeena-Queen Charlotte Regional District Security Issuing Bylaw 574, 2014*". This Agreement is sealed with the Corporate Seal of the Regional District of Skeena-Queen Charlotte and signed by the Chair and the officer assigned the responsibility of financial administration thereof.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Chair

\_\_\_\_\_  
Treasurer

Pursuant to the *Local Government Act*, I certify that this Agreement has been lawfully and validly made and issued and that its validity is not open to question on any ground whatever in any Court of the Province of British Columbia.

Dated \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Inspector of Municipalities

PRINCIPAL AND/ OR SINKING FUND DEPOSIT AND INTEREST PAYMENTS

<u>Date of Payment</u>	Principal and/or Sinking <u>Fund</u> <u>Deposit</u>	<u>Interest</u>	<u>Total</u>
_____	\$ _____	\$ _____	\$ _____
_____	\$ _____	\$ _____	\$ _____



**SKEENA-QUEEN CHARLOTTE REGIONAL DISTRICT  
BYLAW NO. 575, 2014**

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Being a bylaw to repeal bylaws establishing sewer and water works reserve funds for the community of Queen Charlotte.

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WHEREAS the Board created bylaws to establish reserve funds for water and sewer works for the community of Queen Charlotte;

AND WHEREAS these bylaws no longer serve the purpose for which they were created and are now inactive;

NOW THEREFORE the Board of the Skeena-Queen Charlotte Regional District in open meeting enacts as follows:

1. Citation

This bylaw may be cited as the "Queen Charlotte Water and Sewer Works Reserve Fund Repealing Bylaw No. 575, 2014."

2. Repeal:

That the following bylaws be repealed:

- a. Water Works Reserve Fund for Queen Charlotte Bylaw No. 445, 2003;
- b. Sewer Works Reserve Fund for Queen Charlotte Bylaw No. 446, 2003.

READ A FIRST TIME this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2014.

READ A SECOND TIME this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2014.

READ A THIRD TIME this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2014.

RECONSIDERED AND ADOPTED THIS \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2014.

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Barry Pages  
Chair

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Joanne Fraser  
Corporate Officer

**SKEENA-QUEEN CHARLOTTE REGIONAL DISTRICT  
BYLAW NO. 576, 2014**

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Being a bylaw to repeal bylaws establishing committees and commissions of the Skeena-Queen Charlotte Regional District.

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WHEREAS the Board created various committees and commissions by bylaw to address the various needs of the Regional District;

AND WHEREAS these committees and commissions no longer serve the purpose for which they were created and are now inactive;

NOW THEREFORE the Board of the Skeena-Queen Charlotte Regional District in open meeting enacts as follows:

1. Citation

This bylaw may be cited as the "Skeena-Queen Charlotte Regional District Standing Committees and Commissions' Repealing Bylaw, No. 576, 2014."

2. Repeal:

That the following bylaws and all amendments thereto be repealed:

- a. Regional Recreation Planning Committee Bylaw No. 50, 1976;
- b. Skeena-Queen Charlotte Regional Industrial Development Commission Bylaw No. 66, 1978;
- c. Queen Charlotte City/Skidegate Landing Advisory Planning Commission Bylaw No. 79, 1979;
- d. Queen Charlotte City Utilities Management Board Bylaw No. 135, 1984;
- e. Queen Charlotte City Sewer and Water System Committee Bylaw No. 145, 1984;
- f. Crippen Cove Advisory Planning Commission Bylaw No. 165, 1986;
- g. Prince Rupert Airport Management Committee Bylaw No. 319, 1996;
- h. North Coast Seafood Industry Advisory Committee Bylaw No. 332, 1997;
- i. Miller Creek Neighborhood Association Standing Committee Bylaw No. 357, 1998;
- j. Islands Solid Waste Advisory Committee Bylaw No. 432, 2002.

READ A FIRST TIME this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2014.

READ A SECOND TIME this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2014.

READ A THIRD TIME this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2014.

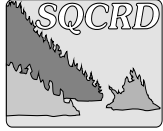
RECONSIDERED AND ADOPTED THIS \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2014.

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Barry Pages  
Chair

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Joanne Fraser  
Corporate Officer



## STAFF REPORT

**DATE:** January 24, 2014

**FROM:** Joan Merrick, Chief Administrative Officer

**SUBJECT:** Rezoning of Fractional NE ¼ of DL 830A, Except Plan 11017, Parcel Identifier 015-633-012, 16320 Tow Hill Road (G. Schweers)

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### RECOMMENDATION:

THAT the staff report be received;

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### BACKGROUND:

The Skeena-Queen Charlotte Regional District received an application from Gordon Schweers to rezone the Fractional NE ¼ of DL 830A except plan 11017 (beachfront lots 1-11), Parcel Identifier 015-633-012, from the Park and Assembly District P-1 zone to the Agriculture-Forestry District A-1 zone. The property is located at 16320 Tow Hill Road. The property is 102 acres (41.3 hectares) in area and contains a cabin. A site plan was submitted indicating the location of a cabin in the center of the property.

At the time of purchase, the applicant was advised by the Regional District that the property was zoned A-1. More recently, the Regional District has confirmed that the zoning to A-1 did not in fact occur, and a composite zoning map for the subject property was not accurate.

In order to rectify the discrepancy the Regional District advised Mr. Schweers to apply for a rezoning. The board received the planning consultant's report in November 2013 gave first reading to the rezoning bylaw # 560.

### DISCUSSION:

Following first reading staff sent referrals to various agencies for comment. The following comments were received:

- a/ Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure – Approval recommended subject to the following conditions:

“Should the rezoned property require a commercial access to Towhill Rd, or seek to do any works within our right of way, a permit is required from the MOTI Skeena District.”

- b/ Ministry of Environment (BC Parks) – the subject parcel is within Naikoon Provincial Park, and it is located adjacent to other areas within the park. The response received indicated that they had “no concerns with the application as it appears to be a correction to a historical error in land designation”.

- c/ Northern Health – Approval recommended subject to conditions below:

As the purpose of the rezoning application is to permit residential use as the principle use, the applicant must satisfy the following conditions:

- Provide evidence that the property can accommodate an acceptable on-site sewage treatment and disposal system(s), as well as an adequate supply of potable water;
- Assessment of the proposed lot conducted by an Authorized Person, as defined in the BC Sewerage System Regulations, to identify suitable primary and reserve sewage disposal areas;
- Provide documentation that the proposed discharge areas are located above the 200 year floodplain;
- Provide evidence that the property complies with criteria outlined in Northern Health’s Guidelines for subdivision and submit a written report of the findings to the Northern Health office.

- d/ Graham Island Advisory Planning Committee – the committee did not meet to review the application jointly, however, the Regional District received comments from two members of the committee stating that they did not have any concerns related to this rezoning.

## Public Input

The Regional District passed a resolution in November to waive the public hearing. Between second and third reading staff will issue a notice, in accordance with Section 893 of the local Government act, and provide letters to the adjacent property owners. Any comments received will be reported to the Board in February prior to third reading.

**Recommendation:**

Staff is recommending that Bylaw 560 be given second reading at the tonight's meeting and third reading and adoption in February.

## REPORT

**TO:** Joan Merrick, Chief Administrative Officer, Skeena-Queen Charlotte Regional District  
**FROM:** Judy Skogstad, Planning Consultant  
**TOPIC:** Medical Marihuana Facilities  
**DATE:** January 20th, 2014

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### 1.0 Background

Effective April 1, 2014, legal access to marihuana for medical purposes will be through licensed producers under the *Marihuana for Medical Purposes Regulations*. Health Canada has undertaken a complete reworking of the medical marihuana system — in part due to concerns about the risk of criminal infiltration. The previous medical marijuana access program, which enabled those with medical conditions to cultivate their own product, will be phased out. The Regional District has now received one inquiry regarding zoning for such facilities.

### 2.0 *Marihuana for Medical Purposes Regulations*

Under the *Marihuana for Medical Purposes Regulations*, interested parties must apply to Health Canada to become a licensed producer. Licensed producers can be authorized to possess, produce, sell, provide, ship, deliver, transport (including export/import), and destroy marihuana for medical purposes. The “production” of medical marijuana includes subjecting it to a drying process, and the word “provide” includes “transfer”. The new regulations permit only the sale of dried marihuana, which must be shipped directly to the client or their physician if requested. To obtain marihuana under the new system, individuals must be ordinarily a resident in Canada and must register as clients with a licensed producer.

Licensed producers must be an adult who ordinarily resides in Canada or a corporation that has its head office in Canada or operates a branch in Canada and whose officers and directors are all adults. Licensed producers must obtain the proper personal security clearances and meet the physical security requirements for the cultivation and storage areas, as well as specified application requirements relating to their proposed site(s) and production.

A site is defined to mean a building or a place in a building used by a licensed producer; or an area occupied exclusively by buildings used by a licensed producer. The facility cannot be located within a dwelling and cannot operate as a storefront. Production sites can only be located indoors. This can include a greenhouse if it meets the new *Marihuana for Medical Purposes Regulations*.



A licensed site must be designed in a manner that prevents unauthorized access, have visual monitoring and recording devices, be secured by an intrusion detection system that operates at all times and is monitored at all times by personnel. Areas within a site where cannabis is present have additional security measures, as well as a requirement to be equipped with a system that filters air to prevent the escape of odours and, if present, pollen. A licensed producer may possess and produce cannabis, other than marihuana, solely for the purpose of conducting in vitro testing that is necessary to determine the percentages of cannabinoids in dried marihuana; and sell, provide, ship, deliver, transport and destroy cannabis, other than marihuana, that was obtained or produced solely for the above noted purpose.

### **3.0 Role of Local Governments**

The “regulations” define “local government” as including the government of an incorporated or unincorporated city, metropolitan area, town, village or municipality and specify a role with respect to required notification by applicants. While remote area in regional districts may not ordinarily be considered metropolitan areas, most have zoning and some regional districts are reviewing their requirements.

#### **3.1 At Time of Application to Health Canada**

Before submitting an application for a producer’s licence or an amendment to an existing license, the applicant must provide a written notice to the following persons in the area in which the proposed site is located: the local government; the local fire authority; and the local police force or the Royal Canadian Mounted Police detachment that is responsible for providing policing services to that area. (Sections 38 and 39 of the *Marihuana for Medical Purposes Regulations*.)

The notice must contain the name of the applicant; the date on which the applicant will submit the application to the Minister; the activities for which the license is to be sought specifying that they are to be conducted in respect of cannabis; and the address of the site, and if applicable, of each building within the site at which the applicant proposes to conduct those activities. The notice must be sent to the senior official of the local authority to which it is addressed.

Accompany documents in an application to the Minister for a producer’s license must include a declaration, signed and dated by the proposed senior person in charge, stating that the notices to local authorities have been provided in accordance with Section 38 and specifying the names, titles and addresses of the officials to whom they were addressed and the dates on which they were provided, together with a copy of each notice.

#### **3.2 Upon Approval of Health Canada**

Within 30 days after the issuance, renewal, amendment, suspension, reinstatement or revocation of its licence, a licensed producer must provide a written notice to the local

government; the local fire authority; and the local police force or the Royal Canadian Mounted Police detachment that is responsible for providing policing services to that area.

The notice must contain the name of the licensed producer and the address of their site, and a description of the applicable license, renewal, amendment, suspension, reinstatement or revocation of its license.

### 3.3 Local Government Issues

Upon notice of a proposed application, the local government would ascertain compliance with zoning and any other applicable requirements such as a development permit and any other permit requirements (including building permits in the case of many other local governments).

There appears to be no requirement for the applicant to indicate the response of the local government to the notice under Section 38 of the *Marihuana for Medical Purposes Regulations*. It is the responsibility of the local government to conduct the relevant inspections for compliance with bylaws such as zoning. Health Canada can only inspect for compliance with the *Marihuana for Medical Purposes Regulations* and any related federal legislation. Local governments cannot stop the licensing process if they disagree with the proposed site of production or any other requirement. However, they can communicate any concerns directly to the production site owner and enforce local bylaw and other local legislation requirements. Enforcement of zoning and permit compliance would be at the discretion of the local government.

## 4.0 Land Use Regulations Related to Medical Marijuana Facilities

### 4.1 Agriculture Land Reserve (ALR)

The *Agriculture Land Commission Act* (ALC Act) and regulations determine land use in the Agriculture Land Reserve. Farm use is defined under this Act as *“An occupation or use of land for farm purposes, including farming of land, plants and animals and any other similar activity designated as farm use by regulation, and includes a farm operation as defined in the Farm Practices Protection (Right to Farm) Act.”*

Based on the above definition, the Agricultural Land Commission’s position is that if a land owner is lawfully sanctioned to produce marihuana for medical purposes, the farming of marihuana in the ALR is allowed and would be consistent with the definition of “farm use” under the ALC Act. However, not all activities associated with its production would necessarily be given the same “farm use” consideration. Accessory uses would need to be contingent on the use being necessary and commensurate with the primary function of the property/building to produce an agricultural product. These could include a small business office, testing lab, processing and drying, packaging, shipping areas, cloning room and anything else directly related to the *growing* and processing of the plant. If a land use activity is proposed that is not specifically related to the growing of an agricultural product, including a stand-alone research and development facility, an application to the ALC for non-farm use would be required.

The *Agricultural Land Reserve Use, Subdivision and Procedure Regulations* (Part 2, 2, (2) (c)) permit the following as a farm use: “storage, packaging, product preparation or processing of farm products, if at least 50% of the farm product being stored, packed prepared or processed is produced on the farm or is feed required for farm production purposes on the farm”. Based on this, it would appear that some marihuana that was not grown on site could be imported for sale. Under Division 6 of the *Marihuana for Medical Purposes Regulations*, a licensed producer can apply for an import permit to import marihuana in the form of seeds, plants or dried marihuana.

The *Agriculture Land Commission Act* (ALC Act) and Regulations pursuant to the Act take precedence over local government zoning regulations with respect to permitted land use activities. However local governments still have a role to place through zoning – they can restrict where these activities take place through setback requirements, for example. However, they cannot prohibit activities otherwise permitted by the ALC Act and related provincial legislation.

#### 4.2 Regional District Zoning

##### Graham Island

Electoral Area “D” Interim Zoning Bylaw 192, 1993, which is applicable to Graham Island, defines ‘Agricultural use’ to mean a use providing for the growth, producing and the harvesting of agricultural or mariculture products; the keeping of horses for personal family use of the residents; includes the processing on an individual farm of the primary agricultural products harvested, reared or produced on that farm; the storage of farm machinery, implements, agricultural and mariculture supplies; repairs to farm machinery and implements used on that farm; and the retail sale of produce grown on that farm, and excluding all manufacturing, processing, storage and repairs not specifically included in this definition.” (Bylaw 397)

Agricultural products are not defined in the zoning bylaw and neither is processing. The definition of “Agricultural use” does not limit the growth, production and harvesting of agricultural products to a soil based environment – these could take place within enclosed structures such as greenhouses, buildings to raise chickens and pigs, etc. Therefore the growing of marihuana plants indoors for distribution would be permitted under this definition.

However, the importation of marihuana plants to be dried and then distributed, and the importation of dried marihuana for direct distribution would not be permitted. The current definition of agriculture requires that agricultural products be grown, produced and harvested on-site if processing and retail sale are to be also permitted

Processing that would be permitted under the *Marihuana for Medical Purposes Regulations* would include the drying of marihuana and packaging and labeling for distribution. Drying marihuana would be a form of processing, just as drying hay, herbs, etc. would be. Packaging and labeling products for sale could also be considered a permitted processing activity, although the *Marihuana and Medical Purposes Regulations* may be more stringent than might be required or undertaken for the retail of local farm produce. The regulations set out requirements for packaging and labeling that include for example, the

lot number, the percentage of delta-9-tetrahydrocannabinol and cannabidiol, net weight, recommended storage conditions, packaging date, expiry date, etc.

Agriculture is permitted as a use in the following zones: Agriculture-Forestry A-1; Rural District – R-1; the Small Holdings District R-2, and the Resource Conservation District – RS-1 Zone.

- The A-1 zone applies to land within the Agriculture Land Reserve, crown land, and larger lots in the vicinity of crown land. The A-1 zone has a minimum parcel size of 6 hectares to be created by subdivision\* and setback requirements for buildings and structures of 7 meters from front and rear parcel lines and 5 meters from a side parcel line. There is no height restrictions on buildings.
- The R-1 zone occurs near the village of Port Clements. It has a minimum parcel size of 1.5 hectares for the creation of parcels by subdivision\*, the same setbacks requirements as the A-1 zone; and a building height limitation of 9 meters.
- There is some R-2 zoning in the Masset East area, near Masset Sound and Nadu River area. The R-2 zone has a minimum parcel size requirement of 8000 square meters (0.8 hectares) for the creation of parcels by subdivision\*, the same setback requirements and building height limitations as the R-1 zone.
- The RS-1 zone has a minimum parcel area of 6 hectares for the creation of parcels by subdivision\*, setback requirements of 7 meters from all parcel lines for buildings and structures, and a maximum height of 9 meters for all buildings and structures.

#### Moresby Island

The Sandspit-Moresby Island Interim Zoning Bylaw No. 186 has a similar but not identical definition of *Agricultural Use* – mariculture, for example, is not listed as a permitted use. Agriculture use is permitted in the Agriculture-Forestry A-1 zone and the Rural-Residential R-1 zone.

- The A-1 zone applies to the majority of Moresby Island covered by zoning which includes the Agricultural Land Reserve and forestry lands. The A-1 zone under Bylaw No. 186 has a minimum parcel area requirement of 6 hectares for the creation of parcels\*, a requirement for a 7 meter setbacks of buildings and structures from front and rear parcel lines and 5 meters from a side parcel line, and 9 meter maximum height restrictions for buildings and structures.
- The R-1 zone applies to many parcels adjacent to Shingle Bay in District Lots 166 and 837. There is also some R-1 zoning on Mountain Ask Drive adjacent to the Golf Course lands. The R-1 zone under Bylaw No. 186 has a minimum parcel size requirement of 4000 square meters (0.4 hectares) for parcels to be created\*, a 10 meter setback requirement for buildings and structures from a front parcel line, 7 meters from a rear parcel line, and 5 meters from a side parcel line. There is also a height restriction of 9 meters for buildings and structures.

\* Smaller lots may exist within the various zones than is currently permitted to be created via subdivision, as parcels may have been created prior to the adoption of the current zoning bylaws for Graham and Moresby Islands.

### Electoral Areas A and C

There is no zoning in place for Electoral Areas A and C, and therefore no need to assess requirements for Regional District bylaws.

## **5. Summary and Future Considerations**

The *Marihuana for Medical Purposes Regulations*, to take effect on April 1, 2014 has implications for local government land use bylaws and regulations. The Skeena-Queen Charlotte Regional District's zoning Bylaws 192 and Bylaw 186, under the definition of agriculture use, would permit the growing of marihuana and its processing on-site. Other activities that include direct importing and distribution would not be permitted by zoning. However, a degree of this would appear to be permitted by the Agriculture Land Reserve regulations and this legislation would take precedence over local zoning prohibitions.

Given the location of the various zones in which agriculture is a permitted use in conjunction with other land uses such as residential and outdoor recreation that are also permitted in some zones, the Regional District may want to review its zoning with respect to this issue. Options to consider could be to:

- Require greater setbacks and larger lot sizes for the establishment of an agricultural activity under *Marihuana for Medical Purposes Regulation* (e.g. the R-1 zone in Bylaw 186) ;
- Exclude activities authorized under the *Marihuana for Medical Purposes Regulation* in certain zones where agriculture use is otherwise permitted (e.g. the RS-1 zone in Bylaw 192) ;
- Consider, through site specific zoning applications, permitting all marihuana activities authorized by the new regulations in an appropriately located industrial zone – this would provide opportunities for the distribution of products imported and not grown on-site in non-ALR areas.

As noted previously, some Regional District are currently reviewing their zoning provisions. The Sunshine Coast Regional District, for example, is proposing a minimum parcel size requirement of 8 hectares and 60 meter setbacks on rural parcels for medical marihuana facilities, and a 7.5 meter setback in the I7 zone, which is located within the Hillside

Industrial Park. The Cowichan Valley Regional District is introducing requirements for medical marihuana facilities (where they are to be permitted) to be located a minimum of 100 meters from a parks or institutional zone and 300 meters of a residential, comprehensive or mixed use zone.

If the Board wishes to consider amending its zoning provisions as they relate to potential marihuana for medical purpose facilities, it may be prudent for such a review to be delayed until after the province has completed its core review of the Agricultural Land Commission which is currently underway.

The official community plans for Graham Island and Moresby Islands would need to be reviewed to ensure compliance of any proposed zoning changes with policies in these plans.

Judy Skogstad

Planning Consultant, RPP, MCIP



December 23, 2013

Ms. Lori Wiedeman  
District Manager, Skeena District  
Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure  
4825 Keith Avenue  
Terrace, BC V8G 1K7

VIA E-MAIL

Dear Ms. Wiedeman

Re: Highway 16 Maintenance December 22, 2013  
Prince Rupert to Terrace

I wish to make complaint of the disgustingly treacherous conditions which existed on highway 16 between Prince Rupert and Terrace on Sunday December 22, 2013. In doing so I specifically refer to my letter to the Minister dated January 31, 2013 and another to Mr. Norm Parkes dated April 9, 2013. I further refer to my numerous other letters and e-mails complete with attached photographs which I have sent to your Ministry over the past several years.

I left Prince Rupert at approximately 9:00 am, December 22, on the way to Shames Ski area with my son and his family in his 4x4 pick-up complete with studded tires. We arrived at Shames at approximately 11:30 am.

The section of highway maintained by O'Brien Road & Bridge Maintenance was in its usual immaculate condition, with the travel lanes and shoulders fully plowed and sanded. However, immediately as we entered the section of highway maintained by Nechako Northcoast Construction, it was apparent that no plowing had taken place and this continued on our east bound lane for the entire stretch all the way to the Shames turn off. As we progressed east, the compacted snow and rutted condition of our travel lane became increasingly worse.

As we passed the restriction at Exchamsiks (CN Mile 35) one could see the many ice formations which were again threatening the safety of those passing underneath. In particular, the icicles and ice formations at Car Wash Rock were numerous and it was obvious that NO ice removal had taken place for several days (or weeks) to have these icicles to have reached such massive sizes. With the mild temperatures, any section of these multiple ice formations at either of these restrictions in the highway could have fallen and crushed the vehicles and people below.

This standard of maintenance of highway 16 has been taking place for years now and continues to be nothing short of criminal. I again ask the questions: Is it a criminal offence for highways officials to authorize payment for work which they know has not met specifications? Is it a criminal offence for highway maintenance contractors to accept payment for work they know has not met specifications?

Does Nechako Northcoast have sufficient equipment and properly trained and experienced employees to fulfill contract obligations? If not, are they continuing to be paid for services which they are not providing? How is the travelling public being advised of the lack of proper highway

maintenance which is occurring? Why has the Ministry web cam at Kasiks been out of service for the past several weeks?

Is the only solution to this ongoing problem with the standard of winter maintenance as provided by Nechako/Billabong to stop driving highway 16 during the 6 month period over which winter conditions exist?

Yours truly,

Brian Denton  
2134 Graham Avenue  
Prince Rupert, BC V8J 1C8

c. Mr. Randy Penner, Operations Manager, Skeena District  
Mr. Dan Beaulac, Nechako Northcoast Construction  
Honourable Todd Stone, Minister



Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure, Economy Sector, Families Sector, Transportation Sector, Northern B.C. Region

## Improved maintenance coming to Highways 16 and 97

/2014/01/improved-maintenance-coming-to-highways-16-and-97.html

Tuesday, January 21, 2014 8:30 AM

**PRINCE GEORGE** - The Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure is changing the maintenance classification for Highway 16 and Highway 97 in northern B.C. to a Class A level, meaning more maintenance and quicker response times on both highways.

These highways are critical corridors supporting liquefied natural gas development and other industrial growth in the North.

Currently Highway 16 is maintained at a rural highway Class B level, except for main arterials through cities and the stretch of road between the B.C./Alberta border and Tête Jaune Cache, which are already maintained at a Class A level. The change will make the entire Highway 16 corridor Class A, from Prince Rupert to the B.C./Alberta border.

Currently Highway 97 North has a classification level of B for the portion between Prince George and Chetwynd. After the change, the entire northern section of Highway 97 from Cache Creek to the end of provincial jurisdiction for the highway north of Fort St. John, will be Class A.

These changes represent a significant increase in the maintenance commitment for both highways, and will result in more frequent patrols and quicker response times, and more plowing, snow removal, and salt and sand applications.

The changes are expected to be in effect by mid-to-late February.

In the past four years, the Government of B.C. has invested \$129 million in improvements and upgrades on Highway 16.

### Quotes:

Minister of Transportation and Infrastructure Todd Stone -

*"Highway 16 and Highway 97 are both key corridors in the North, supporting the region's growing LNG and industrial development. This change will ensure these highways are maintained to the best possible standards."*

Minister of Jobs, Tourism and Skills Training and MLA for Prince George-Valemount Shirley Bond -

*"Increasing the maintenance levels on important northern highways will support development in the North as we continue to see traffic growth on these corridors. This is great news for the thousands of people who live and work in our region, many of whom travel frequently in some very challenging weather conditions."*

MLA for Prince George-Mackenzie Mike Morris -

*"Highway 97 North is a vital corridor for industry, and I know that commercial drivers and local users will be thrilled with this change in the highway's maintenance classification for the Prince George to Chetwynd corridor."*

Minister of Aboriginal Relations and Reconciliation and MLA for Nechako Lakes John Rustad

*"This is very welcome news for the residents and commercial drivers who use Highway 16 and Highway 97 on a regular basis. These changes will not only make travel safer and more efficient, they will have significant, positive spin-off effects for British Columbians throughout the North."*

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**2. Emergency Planning and Preparedness** [Review: June; Oct; Jan; May; Sept]

<b>Improve the effectiveness of emergency management for the Region</b>	
<b><u>Action</u></b>	<b><u>Update</u></b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Initiate contact with Member Municipalities and First Nations with the goal of developing both Mainland and Haida Gwaii Emergency Management Working Groups</li> </ul>	<p><b>2013 – Staff has had some contact with Emergency Co-ordinators for first nations and muni's. However, due to resource constraints very little progress towards developing Emerg. Management working Groups has been achieved.</b></p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Coordinate with Emergency Management BC to arrange continued training and access to other resources and / or support that may be available</li> </ul>	<p><u>June</u> – EMBC traveling to Prince Rupert and Haida Gwaii to discuss tsunami risks in coastal BC and to share recent updates to the BC tsunami notification process.</p> <p><u>Aug</u> – Staff attended sessions on Tsunami Planning held in Prince Rupert and various locations on Haida Gwaii in June</p> <p><u>Sept</u> – Meeting requested at UBCM with Ministry of Justice to discuss replacement funding for the discontinued federal Joint Emergency Preparedness Program</p> <p><u>Nov</u> – Staff attended an EMBC forum held in PR. The session was well attended including a few residents from Area A &amp; C. Environment Canada has provided the RD with 7 Weather Radios that can be issued to key people in each of the rural communities.</p> <p><b>2014 - Staff is planning to attend meetings in Dodge Cove (February 9<sup>th</sup>) and Oona River in the new year. EMBC and 4 communities on Haida Gwaii will be hosting Tsunami Education Forums February 10, 11, 12, 13. Staff has coordinated joint advertising for the events.</b></p> <p><b>Staff have requested Evacuation Response training through EMBC to be hosted in Prince Rupert and Haida Gwaii in the spring.</b></p>

## 2. Emergency Planning and Preparedness (Continued)

Increase the knowledge and abilities of volunteers to respond effectively to emergencies at the local level	
<u>Action</u>	<u>Update</u>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Develop and support community-based Emergency Response Groups in key communities within the electoral areas</li> </ul>	<p><u>June</u> – while on Island for the EMBC sessions, staff will be talking with local contacts regarding formalizing the emergency response groups.</p> <p><u>Dec</u> – Staff has not been able to devote any time to developing community capacity. Area D is looking at contracting with a local resident to facilitate some of the emergency management activities for Graham Island.</p> <p><u>2014</u> - Staff is in the process of contracting with a resident of HG to work on building community capacity development and developing a needs assessment.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Develop community-specific Response Protocols</li> </ul>	No action to date