

SPOTLIGHT ON COUNCIL

Highlights from the November 22, 2016 Regular Council Meeting

Community Forest Board

In September, the Barkley Community Forest Corporation (BCFC), a joint undertaking between the District of Ucluelet and Toquaht Holding Ltd., acquired a steel bridge and installed it over Wendy Creek. This bridge now provides a safer and higher load carrying capacity.

The BCFC is planning to harvest 35,000 m³ of timber from the Barkley Community Forest over the coming months. Revenue from this undertaking, after accruing for upcoming liabilities and future development, will be set aside for distribution to the two major Shareholders: Toquaht Holdings and the District of Ucluelet. The desire is to direct the surplus funds for use by the partners for their own community improvements, or perhaps a joint initiative that meets a common goal for both. The BCFC will be holding open-houses in the coming months to provide greater detail about the Community Forest, its plans and options for the future as well they will be seeking input from community members.

Auditor General for Local Governments (AGLG)

Council met with the AGLG on Nov. 14th. This position has been in place since 2013 with the intention to assist local governments in identifying and mitigating risks; areas of study and audits: procurement, capacity and succession, asset and project management, fire protection and policing costs, budgeting and taxation, and IT security, to name a few.

There are 190 local governments province-wide with 13 AGLG staff members. They have performed 18 audits, with the goal to do 5 a year. At present they are auditing the communities of Squamish, Nelson, Tofino, Fernie and Port Edward for human resources.

Ucluelet & Area Historical Society

Met Nov. 14th. The Society put together an application for Heritage BC Japanese Historic Places Recognition program. They have been working closely with Mary Kimoto to have Ucluelet receive this recognition.

Parks Canada Announcing the Traverse Trail

Attended the Westcoast Committee meeting last week. The ACRD heard from Parks Canada regarding the Traverse Trail, which will run along the highway and down near Florencia Bay. The trail will be 20m off of the road, with 5.2m clearance, 3.2m being the actual trail width. The tender package for clearing work closed on Nov. 14th.

Possible Health and Wellness Centre in Ucluelet

Met with Dr.'s regarding a possible health and wellness centre in Ucluelet and how Mayor and Council can partner with them on this venture. Currently considering the possibility of Ucluelet providing the building to facilitate having all island healthy practitioners in one place. BC Ambulance also expressed an interest in the building. The Community Coordinator for the Alberni Health Network, Marcie Dewitt, is also support of the wellness centre idea.

Aquarium Release

The Ucluelet Aquarium's annual release day event is scheduled for Dec. 3rd this year.

Next Regular Council Meeting is

Tuesday, December 13, 2016 - 7:30 pm

George Fraser Room, Ucluelet Community Centre
500 Matterson Drive, Ucluelet, BC

