

Provincial Cabinet Minister Meeting

Honourable Terry Lake

Ministry of Health

Date: September 23, 2014 @ 1:20 pm

Location: Alpine Room C

PURPOSE

Joint meeting with Honourable Terry Lake, Minister of Health and the District of Ucluelet to discuss:

- 1) Supporting the BC Healthy Communities Initiative and an invitation to see how it is working in Ucluelet;
- 2) Low risk birthing access on the West Coast

BACKGROUND

Our municipality takes an active role in the Coastal Family Resources Coalition, a group of regional service providers with great representation from Island Health. The District sincerely appreciates the support and involvement from the healthcare sectors. A recent presentation by Dr. Hasselback to Council recognized a number of successes that positively impacted the community due to the Coalition's hard work over the past decade.

The District of Ucluelet also very much appreciates the new approach from Island Health in working with existing services and using local expertise and knowledge to assist in providing the best care for our citizens.

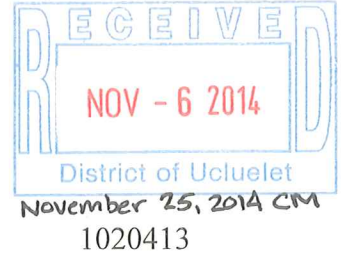
Two major concerns the District has difficulty with addressing is the lack of birthing services available in our region and accessing out of town specialists, particularly for those relying on public transport.

CONCLUSION

The District of Ucluelet would like to invite the Minister to visit and view the tangible evidence of our health related successes and to encourage continued support for health provider participation on the Coalition. We would also like to request network funding for West Coast Regional Health.



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His Worship Bill Irving
Mayor of the District of Ucluelet
PO Box 999
Ucluelet BC V0R 3A0

Dear Mayor Irving *Bill*

I am writing in follow up to our meeting on September 23, 2014, at the convention of the Union of British Columbia Municipalities (UBCM).

I enjoyed meeting with you and councilors and staff from your area. I appreciated the open and straightforward discussions we had on a number of topics in your region including Ucluelet's suggestion of a health network subset for the west coast, and request for support on the hospital's ambulance helipad regulation situation.

Please find below the results of the requested follow-up that came out of the meeting:

1. Health network subset for the west coast – The Alberni-Clayoquot Health Network includes the close-knit west coast communities of Ucluelet and Tofino. Subsets are not uncommon at Island Health, and the west coast communities are encouraged to make a request to Island Health to enter into discussions regarding the development of a health network subset.
2. Helipad Transport Canada regulation change – Island Health is currently assessing plans to develop a heliport for the Tofino Hospital. In the meantime, Island Health and the BC Ambulance Service have made arrangements for helicopter landings at the Tofino Airport.

I encourage you to contact Dr. Paul Hasselback, Central Island Medical Health Officer for Island Health, regarding the health network subset at: 250 739-6304, paul.hasselback@viha.ca; and Mr. Joe Murphy, VP for Operations and Facilities for Island Health, regarding the helipad situation via Tracy Hutton at: 250 370-8338, or tracy.hutton@viha.ca.

Thank you for the opportunity to meet at UBCM. I value your council's commitment and dedication to the residents of the District of Ucluelet.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Terry Lake".

Terry Lake
Minister