



# Provincial Cabinet Minister Meeting

## Honourable Teresa Wat Ministry of International Trade

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**Date:** September 23, 2014 4:40 PM

**Location:** Alta Room, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor

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### **PURPOSE**

Joint meeting with Honourable Teresa Wat, Minister of International Trade, and the District of Ucluelet to introduce the following:

1. Ucluelet Economic Strategy Plan
2. Ucluelet Harbour Business Plan
3. Ucluelet Community Profile

### **BACKGROUND**

Ucluelet is a diverse community with a population of approximately 1600 year-round residents. An additional 1000 residents live nearby in communities that are part of the Alberni-Clayoquot Regional District. Ucluelet is located on the protected waters of Ucluelet Harbour, but is moments away from the open Pacific Ocean and Barkley Sound. Our community is one of the larger hubs on the west coast and many of the region's residents access the services available here. Ucluelet has a medical clinic, grocery stores, a library, gas stations, pharmacies, daycares, restaurants, a post office, a bank, and a credit union. Ucluelet is also home to a community centre, a public aquarium, an elementary school, and a secondary school. Car rentals are available locally, as are boat, float plane, and helicopter charter services.

Ucluelet has invested heavily into infrastructure. Ucluelet operates 2 separate water systems and a sewer treatment facility. Ucluelet has the ability to service many new industries and the ability to expand in the future.

Ucluelet Harbour is one of the largest ports in Canada for landed groundfish and home to a thriving charter fishing industry, a major tourist destination, as well as large First Nations and non-First Nations small boat fleets. This level of activity is a testament to the health of the resource and water quality.

In 2012, the District of Ucluelet embarked on the creation of an Economic Development Strategy. Working with our community partners and our business leaders, we envisioned the transformation of the Ucluelet region by utilizing its geographical location and its regional assets.

Ucluelet has positioned itself as a leader with the further development of our Ucluelet Harbour Business Plan. The District's Harbour Business Plan outlines the many assets and key goals that the District hopes to achieve and bring to the attention of your Ministry and its international trade partners.

Ucluelet has just completed an updated assets and inventory profile and will make this available to you in December 2014.

**Three key Economic initiatives the District is currently pursuing are:**

- Aquaculture and fish/seafood processing opportunities
- Community Forest completion in Fall 2014
- LNG Deep Sea Port for Tugs partnerships – Port Alberni, Nanaimo, Campbell River all have proposals and shipping is through Juan de Fuca Straits or Barkley Sound.

**CONCLUSION**

Ucluelet will continue to work towards its goal of being an economically diverse marine BC community. We are asking that your Ministry review our Economic Development Strategy and our related Ucluelet Harbour Business Plan and in appreciation of our economy and its provincial and national contribution and to be aware of our ongoing effort to attract new investment to this region.



Ref: 13635

OCT 06 2014

His Worship Mayor Bill Irving  
District of Ucluelet  
200 Main Street  
Ucluelet, BC V0R 3A0

Dear Mayor Irving:

It was a pleasure to meet with you and your delegation at the recent Union of British Columbia Municipalities Annual Convention held in Whistler this September.

As the Minister responsible for international investment attraction, international partnerships and growing provincial exports, I was pleased to hear about your initiatives to develop the economic strategy of your community as presented in your Harbour Plan and Economic Development Strategy. In addition, it was insightful to learn about trading and investment opportunities in the seafood sector as well as your efforts to establish a friendship twinning relationship with a community in Japan.

In follow-up to our meeting and specific to your seafood industries, staff from the Ministry of International Trade (MIT) will be reaching out to staff from the District of Ucluelet to provide more information on my mission to China, Japan and Korea in November of this year, and to provide specific information on participation by the District and District based businesses in the China Seafood and Fisheries Show in Qingdao, China, in which we anticipate having a significant BC presence. I also look forward to being able to visit Ucluelet in the near future in order to learn more about your community and opportunities to invest.

The International Business Development Division within MIT is led by Mr. Clark Roberts, Assistant Deputy Minister. Mr. Roberts and his team would be pleased to assist you on further export and international investment initiatives; Mr. Roberts can be reached by email at [clark.roberts@gov.bc.ca](mailto:clark.roberts@gov.bc.ca) or by telephone at 604 775-0005.

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Mayor Bill Irving  
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I appreciate your passion and commitment to help build a stronger, economically vibrant community and province.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Teresa Wat". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above the printed name.

Teresa Wat  
Minister

pc: Mr. Clark Roberts  
Assistant Deputy Minister  
Ministry of International Trade