**TO:** AVICC Members

**FROM:** Mayor Larry Cross, President

**DATE:** June 25, 2013

**RE: JUNE 2013 – UPDATE TO MEMBERS AND REQUESTS FOR ASSISTANCE**

Executive met in Nanaimo June 19. The following are some updates and members' assistance is being requested on two items.

**Request for Examples of Situations Arising as a Result of *Schlenker v. Torgrimson* Conflict of Interest Ruling**

Executive has been in communication with the Minister of Community, Sport and Cultural Development in regard to this issue. We would like to provide the Province with examples of how the decision has been affecting our members and are asking for your help.

Please forward a letter **by July 15** identifying specific examples of issues that have arisen and the impact it has had on your local government including a name and contact information should additional information be requested. Send to avicc@ubcm.ca, fax: 250-356-5119 or by mail to AVICC, 525 Government St, Victoria, BC, V8V 0A8.

**Support for FortisBC’s Application for Reconsideration and Variance of the February 25, 2013 BC Utilities Commission (BCUC) Decision Regarding Common Rates, Amalgamation and Rate Design Application and Need for Legislative Changes to Support Operating Fees**

In follow-up to the presentation at the 2013 AVICC AGM & Convention, attached is a one pager that has been developed to enable members to discuss this issue with newly elected MLA’s. As you can see, the impact on our communities and region is significant. The City of Nanaimo has developed a template spreadsheet to assist staff in preparing some locally relevant statistics. A copy is available by email request to avicc@ubcm.ca. Executive will be seeking a meeting with the Honourable Bill Bennett, Minister of Energy and Mines during the UBCM Convention to discuss this issue.

**Strathcona EA Director Jim Abrams and Nanaimo EA Director Bill Veenhof Nominated to Serve on DFO Aquaculture Management Advisory Committees (AMACs)**

Thank you to the nine members who responded to the invitation to serve on either the Finfish or Shellfish AMAC. Executive recommended one nominee and one alternate for each committee to UBCM. The recommendations were:

* Finfish AMAC Nominee: Strathcona EA Director and Vice-Chair Jim Abram
* Shellfish AMAC Nominee: Nanaimo EA Director Bill Veenhof
* Finfish AMAC Alternate: Port Hardy Mayor Bev Parnham
* Shellfish AMAC Alternate: Tofino Councillor Dorothy Baert

**Amendment of the Genetically Engineered Plants & Animal Resolution Being Proposed**

To enable the resolution to be considered by the UBCM Convention, Executive has submitted an amendment to the enactment clause of the Metchosin resolution endorsed at the 2013 AVICC AGM & Convention to broaden the geographic area. The amended resolution would read:

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that UBCM ask the British Columbia government to legislate the prohibition of importing, exporting and growing plants and seeds containing genetically engineered DNA, and raising GE animals within BC, and to declare, through legislation that the province of BC is a GE Free area in respect to all plant and animal species.

**Other Bits & Pieces**

* The Minutes of the 64th Annual Convention held April 12-14, 2013 in Sooke are now available at <http://avicc.ca/2013-minutes/>
* AVICC will be requesting a meeting with the Honourable Steve Thomson, Minister of Forests, Lands and Natural Resources during the UBCM Convention to discuss the Derelict Vessels issue
* Plan to attend the AVICC Luncheon to be held September 18 in conjunction with the UBCM Convention