



**MINUTES OF A MEETING
OF THE ASSOCIATION OF VANCOUVER ISLAND
AND COASTAL COMMUNITIES EXECUTIVE
HELD AT LOCAL GOVERNMENT HOUSE
525 GOVERNMENT ST, VICTORIA, BC
FRIDAY, JUNE 26, 2009**

IN ATTENDANCE: Mayor Christopher Causton, Oak Bay, President
Chair Joe Stanhope, Nanaimo RD, First Vice-President
Councillor Barry Avis, Qualicum Beach, Second Vice-President
Councillor Merv Unger, Nanaimo, Director at Large
Councillor Kenn Whiteman, Port Alberni, Director at Large
Mayor Barry Janyk, Gibsons, Past President

UNABLE TO ATTEND: Director Mary Marcotte, Cowichan Valley RD, EA Representative
Councillor Ronna-Rae Leonard, Courtenay, Director at Large

STAFF ATTENDANCE: Eydie Fraser, Executive Coordinator, Retired
Iris Hesketh-Boles, Executive Coordinator

President Causton called the meeting to order at 11:00 am.

DELEGATIONS

Mike Corrigan, BC Ferries

President Causton welcomed Mike Corrigan, Executive Vice-President and Chief Operating Officer, BC Ferries who provided an overview of the current operations and issues facing BC Ferries. Some of the key issues raised by members included:

- The current status of labour relations and the effects of rumour of potential strikes
- The expected life cycle of the modernization of systems
- The options available to repay the \$2.5 billion debt
- The point at which fares become too high and begin to impact customers choosing not to travel
- The flexibility BC Ferries has to reduce sailings
- Consideration of instituting a loyalty or experience card, partnerships with companies to package promotions, the issues related to the ability to use debit cards and impacts of chip credit cards
- Duty remission for public vs private companies
- The effects of climate action initiatives and stage of BC Ferries' discussion with the provincial government regarding the carbon tax
- BC Ferries potential to be a competitor to private shipping/freight companies such as SeaSpan
- The competitive position with airlines particularly for business traveller
- The plans related to the Olympics
- Consideration of offering more late night sailings to allow islanders to be able to attend events/activities in Vancouver; potential of exchanging an earlier sailing for a late one
- What are the returns on the reservation system and the potential consideration of a free reservation system
- Consideration of a passenger only ferry in future
- The issue of scheduling on the Sunshine Coast

President Causton thanked Mike Corrigan for being able to attend and commented on the significant improvements over the past seven years as it relates to customer service.

A thank you letter will be forwarded to Mike Corrigan reiterating the scheduling concerns on the Sunshine Coast and encouraging BC Ferries to consult with business and community leaders in order to be able to respond to issues arising and noting that they may be helpful in identifying strategies/solutions.

Gil Parker, Vancouver Island SPINE Trail Association (VISTA)

President Causton introduced Gil Parker, Head, Task Force of VISTA, who provided an overview of the project noting that 200 miles of the proposed 800 mile wilderness/hiking trail has already been completed and highlighting the importance of being a continuous trail. A map was shown identifying the proposed trail path. The issue of not utilizing the already-built links of the TransCanada Trail was raised with Gil Parker noting that the purposes of the two trail systems were different: one being a wilderness trail, the other a cycling/multi-use trail and further noted that the proposed route does utilize a historic trail. The other key issue raised related to consideration of using already established biosphere reserves such as Cathedral Grove to enhance the marketing of the trail. An endorsement was sought from AVICC for the project. The SPINE trail was discussed further under 2009-10 Work Plan.

AGENDA

The agenda was approved by consensus.

1. MINUTES

On a motion by First Vice-President Joe Stanhope, seconded by Councillor Kenn Whiteman, That the minutes of the April 2, 5 and teleconference meeting of April 17, 2009 be adopted was **CARRIED**

2. PRESIDENT'S REPORT

President Causton noted that this was the first meeting being held in UBCM's new building and commented positively on the building overall.

3. EXECUTIVE COORDINATOR'S REPORT

Eydie Fraser and Iris Hesketh-Boles spoke briefly about the transition as Eydie retired and Iris begins to assume her new responsibilities specifically acknowledging with appreciation that Eydie would be available as needed over the next year to ensure that the transition would be as seamless as possible and that replacement staffing would be in place shortly to allow Iris to fully immerse herself in the new role.

On a motion by Past President Barry Janyk, seconded by Councillor Kenn Whiteman, That the Executive approve entering into the UBCM Contract for Services was **CARRIED**

4. FINANCIAL AND ADMINISTRATION

On a motion by First Vice-President Joe Stanhope, seconded by Second Vice-President Barry Avis, That \$3,060 from surplus be used to cover the costs of website design was **CARRIED**

On a motion by First Vice-President Joe Stanhope, seconded by Second Vice-President Barry Avis,
That the financial report to May 31, 2009 be received was CARRIED

Staff was given direction to move over the Treaty Advisory Committee Deferred Revenue of \$45,665 into regular AVICC Deferred Revenue account at year end as the work of the Treaty Advisory Committee has long been completed. This amount was leftover from the provincial government grant for supporting the Treaty Advisory Committees and they are not expecting a return of the funding.

On a motion by Second Vice-President Barry Avis, seconded by Councillor Kenn Whiteman,
That the Dues Status Report be received was CARRIED

As a result of discussion on the 2008 audit and potential alternatives for auditors, President Causton would contact Dave Gauley and Councillor Merv Unger would contact Joy Cameron, both chartered accountants in small firms to obtain quotes for audit and preparation of tax returns. The item will be brought forward to the September meeting of AVICC for decision.

5. CONVENTION

The evaluation results summary was discussed briefly by members. The key issues raised included: managing participant's expectations related to the experience of meeting in a community centre versus a state-of-the-art convention centre and the importance of good food. A meeting with Powell River staff is planned for late August.

On a motion by First Vice-President Joe Stanhope, seconded by Past President Barry Janyk,
That 2009 Convention Delegate Evaluation Summary and staff report on 2010 Convention be received was CARRIED

On a motion by Councillor Kenn Whiteman, seconded by Second Vice-President Barry Avis,
That AVICC Convention dates be set as follows: April 8, 9, 10, 2011; April 13, 14, 15, 2012; and April 12, 13, 14, 2013 was CARRIED

Staff will invite AVICC members to identify their interest in hosting the Convention for the above dates when they send out the accommodation information for Powell River. A draw at the Delegate Luncheon at the 2009 UBCM Convention will be utilized should more than one potential host community identify themselves for a particular year.

6. POLICY

On a motion by Past President Barry Janyk, seconded by Councillor Kenn Whiteman,
That the report on the 2009 Resolutions to UBCM be received was CARRIED

On a motion by Past President Barry Janyk, seconded by Second Vice-President Barry Avis,
That the Executive sponsor LR6 and LR7 was CARRIED

Committee consensus was that the practice of providing an informational memo with the resolutions notice was useful and should include an additional note that writers should check their own Council's practice/policy with respect to resolutions approval.

Staff noted that the Responses to the 2008 Resolutions had already been distributed. They will be posted on the website as soon as possible.

The priorities identified at the April 17, 2009 teleconference were discussed in terms of the 2009-2010 Work Plan:

Roundtable on Forestry Recommendations

Past President Barry Janyk provided an overview of the paper he and First Vice President Joe Stanhope prepared titled "Comments on the Roundtable on Forestry—a brief report to the Executive, June 26, 2009." Past President Janyk noted that the Minister would be available at the July meeting of the UBCM Economic Development Committee.

On a motion by Second Vice-President Barry Avis, seconded by Councillor Kenn Whiteman, That the paper be forwarded to the UBCM Community Economic Development Committee as requested through the June 16 memo to UBCM members was CARRIED

Member Visits

President Causton was authorized to spend up to \$750 of \$1,500 budgeted for member visits to undertake visits with Regional District members with the help of the local Executive member. Staff was tasked with identifying regular Regional District meeting dates for July, October and November.

Transportation Study

During the April 17, 2009 Conference Call, interest was expressed in obtaining further information on the E&N Corridor Study. The suggestion was made to have a staff member involved in carrying out the study attend the October AVICC Meeting.

Climate Action

Staff was asked to forward to Jared Wright, policy analyst supporting the UBCM Environment Committee AVICC's request for a follow-up session at the 2009 UBCM Convention on strategies to meet local government commitments under the Climate Action Charter for being carbon neutral by 2012.

Gas Franchise Fees – Agreement Expiring 2011

Councillor Merv Unger with assistance of City of Nanaimo staff will continue to work toward determining the status of repayment of the pipeline and developing strategies for after agreement completion (December 31, 2011).

John Watson, Comox Valley Economics Society

Follow-up with Councillor Ronna-Rae Leonard to determine whether an AVICC Convention session would be appropriate and if so invite him to prepare a brief workshop proposal for consideration at the January meeting.

Trails Strategy

Councillor Kenn Whiteman agreed to contact Gil Parker, VISTA in follow-up to the earlier presentation to obtain more information and discuss potential strategies to advance the proposal with regional districts. A report will be brought back to the next AVICC Executive meeting.

7. CORRESPONDENCE/COMMUNICATIONS

- a) Coastal Community Network
RE: Pacific North Coast Integrated Management Area (PNCIMA) Initiatives
- b) Coastal Community Network
RE: Pacific North Coast Integrated Management Area Process
- c) District of Ucluelet
RE: Pacific Salmon Treaty Compensation
- d) News Release
RE: Timberwest Forest Corp. Files Legal Challenge to Campbell River Tax Increase Bylaw
- e) City of Port Alberni
RE: University of Victoria Property

On a motion by Past President Barry Janyk, seconded by First Vice-President Joe Stanhope,
That the correspondence was received was CARRIED

8. INFORMATION

The 2009/10 AVICC Executive list and meeting schedule were received for information.

9. OTHER BUSINESS

In response to a query about availability of meeting space in the new building, Executive were advised that the two meeting rooms are available by simply calling the main reception desk.

First Vice-President Joe Stanhope advised that BC Ferries was planning to offer additional sailings and BC Transit will increasing the scheduled times from the Nanaimo ferry to downtown Vancouver during the Olympics as Nanaimo was intended to be the customs clearing point.

NEXT MEETING

Teleconference: 8:30 am, September 11, 2009
In-person: 11:00 am, October 29, 2009 - Nanaimo

ADJOURNMENT

On a motion by Past President Barry Janyk, seconded by First Vice-President Joe Stanhope,
That the meeting be adjourned was CARRIED

The meeting adjourned at 2:45 pm.

Mayor Christopher Causton
President

Iris Hesketh-Boles
Executive Coordinator