



**MINUTES OF A MEETING
OF THE ASSOCIATION OF VANCOUVER ISLAND
AND COASTAL COMMUNITIES EXECUTIVE
TELECONFERENCE
MONDAY, JANUARY 17, 2014**

- IN ATTENDANCE:** Mayor Larry Cross, Sidney, President
Councillor Cindy Solda, Port Alberni, First Vice-President
Councillor Barbara Price, Comox, Second Vice-President
Director Mary Marcotte, Cowichan Valley RD, EA Representative
Councillor Meagan Brame, Esquimalt, Director at Large
Councillor Claire Moglove, Campbell River, Director at Large
Councillor Andrew Mostad, Lantzville, Director at Large
Chair Joe Stanhope, Nanaimo RD, Past President
- STAFF ATTENDANCE:** Shelley Webber, Executive Coordinator
- GUEST ATTENDANCE:** Honorable Coralee Oakes, Minister Community, Sport and Cultural Development
Alayna van Leeuwen, Manager, Policy and Legislation, Ministry of Community, Sport and Cultural Development
Director Rhona Martin, President, Union of BC Municipalities and Southern Interior Beetle Action Coalition
Jerry Berry, Steve Rickets, Paul Murray – Gas Operating Agreement Working Group
Christopher Caustin, Vancouver Island Spine Trail Association, Clive Webber, Trans-Canada Trail B.C. trail coordinator
Donna Hobbs, KPMG

President Cross called the meeting to order at 10:30 am.

10:30 AM - Delegation – Honorable Coralee Oakes, Local Government Election Legislation Reform
President Cross welcomed Minister Oakes (via teleconference) and her assistants (in person), Minister Oakes indicated that she was interested in hearing from the Executive on the matter of Expense Limits in local government elections. She referenced the document that was provided to the Executive in advance of the meeting, entitled “Expense Limits in Local Elections Discussion Paper” and noted that the deadline for feedback was January 31, 2014. Executive shared their support and concerns with the White Paper, and thanked the Minister for her willingness and interest in hearing from elected officials on this matter. The Minister encouraged the Executive to go back to their Boards with this paper, and encourage them to provide feedback to the Ministry.

The Executive then took the opportunity to share with the Minister their concern over the BC Ferry Service Cuts recently announced and its expected impact on coastal communities, the desire to see standardization of natural gas rates on the island. EA Representative Marcotte requested a meeting with Minister Oakes to discuss boundary expansion issues, and the Minister invited a meeting with the AVICC on that issue.

11:30 AM - Delegation – UBCM President, Rhone Martin, and Rural BC Project

At the request of the AVICC Executive, UBCM President Rhona Martin provided an overview of the Rural BC Project and the Beetle Action Coalitions. President Martin indicated that a letter of support from the AVICC of the work of the Rural BC Project would be welcome, and if desired the AVICC could request representation on the Rural BC Project Steering Committee. President Martin also indicated that there is a need to secure First Nation support for this initiative as well, and encouraged Executive members to contact local first nations to get their support and involvement in this initiative.

Past President left the room at 11:55 am for a phone call.

President Martin then asked the Executive if there were any questions for her as the President of the UBCM. First Vice President Solda indicated that BC Ferries is a number one priority for AVICC and believes that it should factor high on UBCM's policy priorities as it affects more than just communities within the boundaries of the AVICC. EA Representative Marcotte indicated UBCM should provide an update to the membership soon on the Derelict Vessel Issue.

At 12:00 PM Past President Stanhope returned to the room.

12:30 pM - Delegation – Jerry Berry, Steve Rickets and Paul Murray – Gas Operating Agreements

Executive were advised that there were no updates as of yet on the BCUC submission, and indicated that there is a need for more political action or we may miss another years revenue. Executive were encouraged to continue advocacy efforts on this issue, and that what is needed is the changes to the legislation to be on this year's spring docket. Paul Murray had agreed to develop a mini program for AVICC to approach Minister's with request for legislative changes. Director Moglove indicated that the AVICC needs to develop a written response to the Ministers if the legislative changes are not put on the spring agenda due to a potential lack of a BCUC decision – Paul Murray agreed to help draft the correspondence.

1:00 pM - Delegation – Graham Bruce, Clive Webber and Christopher Caustin – Vancouver Island Spine Trail Association

Executive received a presentation on the current state of both the Vancouver Island Spine Trail and the Vancouver Island portion of the Trans Canada Trail. A feasibility study on the North Island has been completed, however, the proposed trail connections are just a proposal at this point. The request from the AVICC was to seek support from Executive on this project and be approved to deliver a workshop at the 2014 AVICC AGM & Convention on this project. The desire is to see all Mayors and Councillors get on board with connecting communities with the Trans Canada and Vancouver Island Spine Trail network.

1:30 pM - Delegation – Donna Hobbs, KPMG

Ms. Hobbs provided an overview of the AVICC Executive the audit plan for the audit of AVICC's 2013 Financial Statements and Operations.

1:50 PM – Regular Business of the Executive Meeting began

First Vice President Solda requested that the following items be added to the agenda under Other Business:

- 911
- BC Hydro
- Public Libraries

1. ADOPTION OF MINUTES

On a motion by Past President Stanhope, seconded by Second Vice President Price,
That the minutes of the October 25, 2013 Regular Meeting be adopted was

CARRIED

2. REPORTS

a) Update on Recent Activities

Mayor Cross provided a brief verbal update on recent activities including a recent meeting in January with the President and CEO of Tourism Vancouver Island regarding the BC Ferries schedule reduction.

b) Staff Report

Staff referred to the report distributed in the documentation package.

On a motion by EA Director Marcotte, seconded by Director Mostad,
That the reports be received was

CARRIED

3 FINANCIALS AND ADMINISTRATION

a) Financials to December 31, 2013 and 2014 Proposed Budget

On a motion by First Vice President Solda, seconded by EA Representative Marcotte,
That the December 2013 interim financial statement be received and that the 2014 proposed budget be approved based on no requirement for a dues increase for the membership was

CARRIED

b) 2013 Financial Audit

On a motion by Director Moglove, seconded by EA Representative Marcotte,
That the 2013 Audit Planning Report be received and the audit plan be approved was

CARRIED

4. CONVENTION

a) 2014 AGM & Convention Planning

Staff were directed to extend the convention proposal review deadline to January 24th, and to schedule a conference call with Executive for January 27th to finalize the selection of workshop proposals.

b) Convention Budget

Staff reviewed the proposed 2014 Convention budget. Executive determined that a 2.5% increase in Convention Registration fees was warranted due to increased costs year over year.

On a motion by EA Representative Marcotte, seconded by First Vice President Solda,
That the 2014 AVICC Convention fees be increased by 2.5% across the board, and that the deadline to select final workshop proposals be extended until January 24th was

CARRIED

c) Pre-Convention Program and Executive Recognition Dinner

On a motion by Director Moglove, seconded by Second Vice President Price,
That Mayors Westbrook and Burger be invited to the UBCM Executive Recognition Dinner, and that
the pre-convention study tour selections be put to Executive for electronic decision was

CARRIED

d) Chinese Consulate Event Request

On a motion by First Vice President Solda, seconded by Second Vice President Price,
That staff determine if the Chinese Consulate could share a timeslot with the proposed speech by
the Premier at the Convention was

CARRIED

5. POLICY

a) BC Ferries

AVICC Executive discussed past Resolutions passed through both UBCM and AVICC on the issue of BC
Ferries, including concerns over BC Ferry employee discounts, and impacts on the tourism sector.
Executive discussed the need to build a business case if AVICC is to do any kind of analysis on the
socio-economic impacts of a reduced ferry service and rate increase on coastal communities. First
President Solda indicated that the film industry on Vancouver Island is also expected to be impacted
by these cuts.

On a motion by Director Moglove, seconded by Past President Stanhope,
That Director Moglove will send the contact information on the consultant who completed the Route
40 Impact Study to staff, and staff will follow up on potential costs of undertaking an assessment
was

CARRIED

b) Request for Stand-Alone Meeting on Solid Waste Management

AVICC Executive discussed the request from the Comox Valley Regional District for the AVICC to
either organize a stand alone meeting or host a session at the 2014 AVICC AGM & Convention on Solid
Waste Management on Vancouver Island.

On a motion by Past President Stanhope, seconded by EA Representative Marcotte,
That staff send a letter to the Comox Valley Regional District indicating that the AVICC could assist
with meeting logistics for a stand alone meeting, however the Comox Valley Regional District will
need to identify a champion for the meeting who would take the lead on developing the meeting
agenda and speakers was

CARRIED

c) Agriculture Land Reserve/Agricultural Land Commission

On a motion by Past President Stanhope, seconded by EA Representative Marcotte,
That pending the review of resolutions submitted to the AVICC, the Executive may consider drafting
a resolution to bring forward to the UBCM and that the report be received

CARRIED

e) Rural BC Project

On a motion by EA Representative Marcotte, seconded by First Vice President Solda,
That the AVICC write a letter of support to the Rural BC Project Steering Committee, endorse the 5
recommendations of the board, and request representation on the steering committee board was

CARRIED

f) Gas Operating Agreement Update

On a motion by Past President Stanhope, seconded by Second Vice President Price,
That the AVICC write a letter to Minister Coleman and Bennett requesting a meeting to discuss the
needed changes to existing legislation.

CARRIED

6. COMMUNICATION AND CORRESPONDENCE

Invitation from BC Ferries & Marine Workers Union

AVICC received an invitation to a January 31st meeting organized by the BC Ferries and Marine Workers Union on the recent announcements by BC Ferries. Past President Stanhope will attend on AVICC's behalf.

Request from UpCycle Gyres

AVICC received a request from UpCycle Gyres to introduce them to our members for their feasibility study. Executive directed staff to invite the UpCycle Gyres to host a table at the Convention Tradeshow this year.

On a motion by Director Moglove, and seconded by Past President Stanhope,
That the correspondence be received was

CARRIED

8. OTHER BUSINESS

911

First Vice President Solda indicated that there was recently a meeting of the 911 Board, announced a fee increase today of 11% this year, and 10% next year – and that this will not be the only increase we will see. First Vice President Solda will report back to the AVICC Executive on this matter after January 31st.

BC Hydro

First Vice President Solda noted that rate increases are coming and is expected to affect industry to a large degree, homeowners will be under pressure as well. She would like to see the AVICC potentially lobby the provincial government to improve existing programs and provide tax breaks for energy improvement projects.

Library Fees

First Vice President Solda indicated that library fees are increasing, library boards are approving the increases. EA Director Marcotte mentioned that it would be prudent for boards to look at future spending.

9. NEXT MEETING

Time TBD, January 27, 2014
Teleconference

9:00 am – 10:00 pm, March 7, 2014
Teleconference

On a motion by Past President Stanhope, seconded by First Vice President Solda,
The meeting was adjourned at 2:35 pm.

CARRIED

Mayor Larry Cross
President

Shelley Webber
Executive Coordinator