

Island Corridor Foundation

Connecting the places we live, work, learn and play.....



Update to
AVICC
April 2019

AVICC and the Island Corridor Foundation

- Extremely important forum for the ICF
 - The roots of the ICF are here
 - AVICC passed a motion in 2003 to evaluate a private-public partnership with First Nations and Regional Districts to own and manage the corridor
 - Led to the formation of the ICF
 - The future of the ICF is here
 - Ultimately the ICF is a representative organization
 - We work on behalf of our members
 - » First Nations and Regional Districts
 - » The people of Vancouver Island



The Background and Timeline

- Meetings last fall with the Premier and Ministry of Transportation
 - It was clear the Premier was frustrated
 - Fair to say that frustration was shared by all
 - Provincial focus was on the Capital Regional District
 - ICF focus has to be and will continue to be the entire island
 - Work can be done incrementally
 - Must have agreement on the entire island before any work starts
 - ICF maintains there has to be a shared vision
 - The Premier called a meeting of the stakeholders to determine the future of the corridor
 - Meeting was held on December 10, 2018



The Background and Timeline

- Outcome of the Roundtable Meeting
 - First Nations and Stakeholders clearly stated
 - Rail is a key infrastructure element
 - Rail is an integral part of a comprehensive transportation strategy for the island
 - There needs to be a clear commitment from the Province to
 - Re-instate rail service on the entire island
 - Work with ICF as the owner of the Corridor
 - Works needs to be undertaken without delay
 - All work must consider the needs and concerns of our First Nations Partners



Current Status

- The Province has commissioned an assessment of the Corridor
 - This is a repeat of the IBI Study from 2010
- We agree an assessment is required but
 - Not necessarily the approach
 - Seismic Testing? Costs to retrofit Bridges & Tunnels to today's standards?
 - The Foundation did not participate in development of the assessment or the selection of the Proponent
 - Expected completion of Oct 2019
 - Feed into South Island Transportation Study March 2020
 - “To determine if rail is even required”
 - We could have had an operating system in same timeframe



Moving Forward

- We are pleased that an assessment is being done
 - Commend the Province for taking a step in right direction – Make no mistake...this is the right direction
 - At the same time we do have some concerns
 - Timing – current estimates could take us to the next Provincial election
 - We have been here before and sincerely hope this is not going to be another study to add to the pile of studies
 - Analysis Paralysis
 - The Province is acting alone – no consultation with the ICF
 - Bottom line – we are cautiously optimistic



Between Now and November

- We will work with the Province and its Proponent
 - Ensure the assessment moves forward without delay
- Continue to look for ways to advance this critically important project
 - For all the people of Vancouver Island
- We will ensure stakeholders are kept informed as we move forward and that your voices are heard



In Closing - Thank You!

- The level of support we have seen from First Nations, Regional Districts, Municipalities, and the General Public is fantastic
 - 13 CRD Mayors signing a joint letter to the Premier
 - Letters from Duncan, North Cowichan, Nanaimo, Port Alberni
 - Over 500 people attended our town halls
- Resolutions from Districts, Municipalities, and AVICC
 - Incredibly important – Continue to shine light on rail
- We know you see the value of this amazing asset for today and more importantly for future generations

Your support is genuinely appreciated!

