

RECEIVED

NOV 03 2022

CITY OF PORT ALBERNI

Alberni Valley Museum  
and Heritage Commission



Heritage Commission Meeting  
October 5, 2022  
Minutes

Location:  
Alberni Valley Museum

Attendees:  
Claudia Romaniuk  
Don Mallon  
Gareth Flostrand  
Ken Watson  
Pam Craig  
Penny Cote  
Willa Thorpe (staff)

Regrets:  
Bill Collette  
Colin Schult  
Dan Washington  
Ed Ross

Called to order: 7:02pm

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Council	<input type="checkbox"/> Economic Development
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Mayor	<input type="checkbox"/> Engineering/PW
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> CAO	<input type="checkbox"/> Parks, Rec. & Heritage
<input type="checkbox"/> Finance	<input type="checkbox"/> Development Services
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Corporate Services	<input type="checkbox"/> Community Safety
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Agenda	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other <i>Comp Summary</i>
File #	<i>Rm Nov 14, 22</i>
	<i>0360-20-AVMHC</i>

1. Moved by Pam, seconded by Ken, that the agenda of the October 5, 2022 meeting be approved as circulated.
2. Moved by Pam, seconded by Penny, that the minutes of the September 7, 2022 meeting be approved as circulated.
3. Old Business – none
4. Correspondence – none
5. New Business
  - a. Heritage Commission's engagement with City Council
    - i. Willa to discuss opportunities with the CAO
  - b. December Heritage Commission meeting
    - i. The December meeting will be held at McLean Mill
6. Reports
  - a. City Council
    - i. Quay to Quay
      1. Project is still in the planning phase, and it is intended to be as much waterfront as possible
      2. The rail section has been paused to explore alternative connectors
      3. The two waterfront loops will be the first sections built out



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4. Most importantly, it's not "path or pool"
- ii. Fiscal responsibility
  1. Council has worked hard to be strategic and intentional, with a wrap-around goal of reducing tax increases while still improving our community. This has included initiatives such as a review of City-owned lands, selling non-strategic lands and increasing the tax base
  2. Port Alberni has had the lowest consecutive tax increase on Vancouver Island over the past three years
- b. Historical Society
  - i. We are now set up to accept e-transfers. This will help us receive donations for our research services.
  - ii. We have been actively recruiting new members, as our volunteers are aging. Two new names have been put forth. Our president will contact each of them.
  - iii. Volunteer hours in September totalled 145 3/4 hrs. Way to go ladies!
  - iv. Volunteers are in the Archives - Tues – Thurs, 11 am – 3 pm. Masks are mandatory.
- c. Maritime Heritage Society
  - i. Lighthouse Roof Replacement – Roof installation is now scheduled to start on October 10th
  - ii. Harbour History Pictorial Display – This display consisting of a collection of Black & White photographs of Port Alberni's harbour, taken by John Taylor in the 1980's now in our gallery will be going back to the Museum soon. Stop by to see this display October 6th to 9th (11am to 4pm daily) before it is gone. Thanks to the Museum staff for their help with this display and thanks to Dave Cox for his work on this as well.
  - iii. Tseshahat Canoe Exhibit – A new temporary exhibit is now being developed centering around the wonderful Tseshahat "Ladies Canoe" that is on loan at our Gallery. Feel free to come in and take a look as this takes shape.
  - iv. Reconciliation Day Ceremony – The PAMHS was honoured to receive a beautifully carved first nation canoe model from carver Tim Paul and his family. This was in recognition of the PAMHS hosting Tim and his fellow carvers in our compound where they created the Language Revitalization Pole now erected at Millstone Park in Port Alberni.
  - v. Photo Contest – We will be sponsoring a photo contest which invites submission of images featuring our harbour, the Alberni Inlet and Barclay Sound. Watch for more details on our Facebook page "Maritime Discovery Centre" soon.



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- vi. Nahanni Restoration Project – The weekly work sessions are on Wednesdays at 10am are continuing restoring this WW 2 vintage RCAF crash boat. If you would like to get involved with this project there is lots of opportunity to roll up your sleeves and participate. Thanks to Lawrence Charnell for being the leader on this project and thanks as well to Dave Cox, Pete Geddes, Don Jones, and Ken McKinnon for their work on this project.
  - vii. Gallery Coordinator Position – We are pleased to announce that Chris Johnson has been hired to take on the Facilities Coordinator position.
  - viii. Open Hours – We are now open 4 days a week, Thursdays to Sundays from 11am to 4pm.
- d. Community Arts Council
- i. Gallery exhibits
    - October 7 finishing, THE ART OF MYSTERY
    - October 12 – November 4 PLAYING WITH FIRE
    - meet and greet October 22, 1-3 at our new location, the Aquarium
  - ii. Mistletoe Market November 15 to December 23.
  - iii. Fish-in at the salmon derby – Was a big success with the kids.
  - iv. Art Throw Down – September 24, at Rollin Art Centre - also a great success with the kids. November 15, adults. Venue Alberni Brewing
  - v. Conversation Cafe – meetings with other arts groups happening this fall
    - First one took place at Steampunk Cafe on September 22. Round table discussions themed as what does Art look like in the Alberni Valley.
    - Second one to take place October 6 at the Argyle Room. Panel discussions with 4 Artists discussing making a living with art in Port Alberni
  - vi. We are very busy getting ready to move our location to the former aquarium on Harbour Quay. We are busy packing up our gallery and gift shop and office area, and we are looking forward to getting set up in our new location, and are feeling very positive about the location and our time there.
- e. Chamber of Commerce
- i. The Chamber has been busy over the last month as we transition from summer to fall, where most of our employees head back to post-secondary studies.
  - ii. The Chamber has implemented its four-day week program; our employees are enjoying the opportunity to have three days off with their families and we are learning how to navigate these new initiatives.
  - iii. We did participate in the fall fair parade under the McLean Mill umbrella but in so doing we also featured our ambassador program. That program was a





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very good success this past summer. So thankful to see it back in full operation.

- iv. We are seeing hints at renewed international tourism which is lovely to see. Still not to pre-pandemic levels but it's coming back.
- v. Just today the Chamber submitted a grant application that if successful will see us work closely with both Tseshaht and Hupacasath First Nations to develop Indigenous focused way-finding signage. The sign would be developed in the Indigenous language and as a second and third step it would include the use of QR codes for walking/cycling/driving tours to historical areas. The third step would be the development of educational programs hosted by either Tseshaht or Hupacasath where folks would learn about the history of the area they are visiting.

f. McLean Mill

- i. Happy to report that Elliot Drew is joining our team as Director of Operations for the McLean Mill on October 11.
- ii. We are happy to confirm that we'll be hosting a large community event on October 29th put on by some of our local teachers and others with ADAPS. This event has potential to reach hundreds if not into the thousands of people. The event is a fundraiser for ADAPS – that's also very good as their programs are aimed at people who are in a vulnerable position.
- iii. We're also happy to confirm that we have secured Hupacasath First Nation as a title sponsor the Heritage Christmas Village.
- iv. Our gift shop will be open most weekends in November for seasonal shopping and then come December we will have both the Heritage Christmas Village and Festival of Trees operating.
- v. We are also working with the San Group to develop plans for the installation of two Glamping units. This will assist us in attracting people to the site who want to camp but have no previous experience nor do they have any sort of camp equipment. Additionally, the San Group are willing to work with us to develop much needed restroom (basic) facilities so that our campground can become more widely used.

g. Community at Large

- i. October Activities Around Town
  - 3-16 – GoByBike BINGO, register at [gobybikebc.ca](http://gobybikebc.ca) to log your KMs
  - October 9 Bike Jamboree @ Blair Park 1-3pm
  - October 13 Pancake Breakfast @Jumping Slug Community Cyclery 8-10am
  - 5 – Advance Voting



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4,5 and 6 - @ Casino, hosted by Chamber of Commerce – Candidates  
Presentations with Questions  
6 – Comedy Night at Dog Mountain Brewing – Cost \$22.00 show starts @  
8pm  
11 – Coffee and Chat – All Candidates meeting  
12 – Advance Voting  
14 – Downchild Blues Bank @ ADSS Theatre Tix available at Echo Centre \$50  
14 & 15 – Jamm-eez Sleepwear Open House at BW Barclay (11-8 and 10-3)  
15 – All Day Craft and Crop – Kin Hut Fall Fairgrounds - \$70 - 10-4pm  
15 – General Voting Day  
16 – Harvest Market @ Shannon Farms, 8865 Beaver Creek Rd 10-2pm  
16 - Punks On Port Ep III- featuring POOCHED, Age of Self and Disposal @  
Lynn and Lamote Bistro. Music, Beer and Music 5170 Argyle  
18 – AV Hospice Society AGM - @ Casino 7pm  
18,19 & 20 – PA Blood Donation Events @ BW Barclay  
22 – AV Curling Club Vendor Event and Bake Sale 10-4pm @ AVCC  
25 – Evening Creativity Class put on by the Alberni District Fall Fair 7-9pm at  
Kinsmen CC \$50  
28 – 30 – Alberni Thunder Basketball Tournament @ Athletic Hall  
31 – Arrowsmith Family Skate Night @ Multiplex- free admission -  
Arrowsmith Baptist 515-630

**h. School District**

- i. SD70 on Sept 24th 2022 opened the Mighty Learners Childcare facility at Tsuma-as Elementary. This facility provides child care for 81 children from very young children as well as school age students for before and after school. SD70 has received the OK to open before and after school care at Maquinna and John Howitt in Sept of 2023.
- ii. Ucluelet Secondary School is open for school to 250 students. Seismic upgrade improvements have created a beautiful, efficient facility on the West Coast. There are a few minor landscaping jobs to complete.
- iii. The SD70 NTC Elders Cultural Council was consulted on the Residential School Survivor Flag. SD70 would like to have this flag at all facilities soon. The Elder Council recommended the flag be considered once the ground penetrating radar project has been completed on the Tseshaht lands of the former Alberni Residential School.
- iv. SD70 's last two weeks of September were spent preparing Truth and Reconciliation activities and projects in all district schools. Some of the events were:



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1. First Nations BBQ at ADSS Sept 29, Talking Circles in Gr 8 Humanities, Weekly Drumming circles, Usma Canoe unveiling ceremony, canoe project and creation of paddles at EJ Dunn. Alberni Elementary walk to the Language Pole at Victoria Quay, Huu-ay-aht BBQ at Bamfield Community School, Wickaninnish School Banner of 215 feathers in remembrance of Kamloops unmarked graves discovery, Ucluelet Secondary School Legacy of Hope display – all classes participating in understanding the 94 Calls to Action, Forest Walk at the Family Hub and many more.
- i. Industrial Heritage Society
  - i. Our last event was attending the Fall Fair Parade with four of our trucks, we also supplied one truck to the Royal Canadian Legion branch 293 for members unable to march.
  - ii. We have completed roof repairs on the Hilton building at the roundhouse, and finished phase one of roof repairs at the old arena above the welding shop and machine shop area.
  - iii. Bob East is continuing to work on a Safety Plan at the Industrial Heritage Center.
  - iv. Our final event for the month of September was winterizing the steam donkey on Sept. 25.
- j. Regional District
  - i. Lakeshore trail is complete from Sproat Lake Park to Sproat Lake Landing
  - ii. Sproat Lake community hall is now open
  - iii. Sproat Lake School will be demolished
- k. Museum
  - i. Exhibit: Marvellous Mushrooms – opens October 6, with the opening event at 1pm that day. Andy Mackinnon and Kem Luther, Exhibit Curators and co-Authors of the new book “Mushrooms of British Columbia” will present a slideshow/talk on their research – the book will be available for purchase and signing in the Museum.
  - ii. Hours: We will be returning to our pre-COVID hours starting Tuesday October 11th – Tuesday to Saturday 10am to 5pm and to 8pm on Thursdays.
  - iii. We have welcomed a new Museum Education Assistant, Museum Collections Assistant, and casual Museum Assistant.
  - iv. Film Fest: The first film in the fall series was sold out (“Hallelujah: Leonard Cohen A Journey, A Song”). The next film is October 23, a Canadian film “Run Woman Run”.





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- v. Minnie Paterson/George Huff Donation – a variety of artefacts were donated from Doug Paterson; Doug's grandfather was the child Minnie was nursing when she made her heroic run from Cape Beale Lighthouse to Bamfield and back. The accession includes several black and white photographs, a watch chain that belonged to Thomas Paterson Minnie's husband (comprised of a medal presented to Minnie Paterson by 'Puget Sound Harbour No.16' for her efforts in rescuing the Coloma and Minnie's wedding ring), a masonic pendant that belonged to Minnie's father, George Huff, and the ledger from Huff's General Store, with entries beginning in 1894.
- vi. School programs, public programs and birthday parties have resumed, including three choices of birthday parties and a partnership with Library to present some programs.
- vii. The Clutesi Exhibit is well in progress and will open at the Alberni Valley Museum in March 2023.

- l. Hupacasath First Nation – no report
- m. Tseshah First Nation – no report

7. Next Meeting

- a. Wednesday, November 2 → 7pm (AV Museum)

8. Adjourn

- a. Moved by Pam to adjourn the meeting at 8:22pm.

