



RECEIVED

MAY - 8 2025

CITY OF PORT ALBERNI

Heritage Commission Meeting

April 2nd, 2025

Minutes

Location: AV Museum

Attendees:

ACRD
City Council
Chamber of Commerce
Community Arts Council
Community at Large
Historical Society
Industrial Heritage
Maritime Heritage
McLean Mill
SD 70 – Pacific Rim
Staff

Penny Cote - REGRETS
Charles Mealey
Jolleen Dick - REGRETS
Jane Victoria King
Colin Schult - REGRETS
Gareth Flostrand
Leslie Walerius
Ken Watson
Elliot Drew
Pam Craig
Sheila Perry,

Regrets: Hupačasath First Nation
c̓išaaʔath̓ (Tseshaht) First Nation

Visitors: Richard Spencer, APR

Called to Order at 7 pm by Chair Gareth Flostrand:

Note: Member Organizations are to forward their alternate's contact information.

1. Moved by Pam Craig that the agenda of the April 2nd, 2025 meeting be approved.
2. Moved by Elliot Drew that the minutes of the March 5th, 2025 meeting be approved as circulated.
Moved by Pam Craig to accept the consent agenda containing monthly reports for April be approved as circulated.
3. Old Business
 - A. Train Station Update – City Council has approved the additional modifications as presented to the Commission in March by Twin City Brewing.
 - B. PRC Master Plan – Heritage Commission consultation session was held Thursday, March 13th, from 11- 12 pm in the Committee Room at City Hall.
4. Correspondence

<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 checked="" 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 type="checkbox"/> Other _____

File # 0540-20-ANMHC



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5. New Business

- A. Heritage Commission 90 Day Workplan was discussed and reviewed.
- B. Member Organizations – Capacity & Resources – members completed a rudimentary SWOT analysis wherein a number of common challenges and opportunities were identified. Staff to prepare a synopsis and distribute to commission members. Staff to set up a meeting for further discussion.
- C. AVM Collections Policy – the policy is currently being reviewed by staff and will be brought to the Commission for review and input later in 2025.
- D. Heritage Awards – Commission members hope to re-introduce a full fledged event in the future, but for 2025, a social media volunteer recognition initiative will be implemented.
 - Member organizations are to identify the person, event, program, accomplishment they wish to feature in the initiative and forward it to staff.



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6. REPORTS

A. Community Arts Council

CAC Monthly Report for March

Gallery and Gift Shop Operations:

- Count: 317 guests (as of march 19th)
- 9 new memberships
- 3 new consignors in the gift shop
- Updated gift shop display and added a new rotating card display, donated to the CAC by the Draw Gallery.

CAC News and Updates:

- Received notice that Jill Mayne will be stopping Social Studios, and in replacement Adrianna D. will be teaching "Watercolour Wednesdays"
- Developed kids drop-in artmaking at the Grove on Saturdays, hosted by Milo.
- Developing a kids workshop in conjunction with the museum as a way to generate funds.
- Have developed the very first Paint Night., titled "Playhouse Paint Night", along with a service for paint nights, available to be booked for private events.
- Have developed a service for birthday parties for kids, teens, and adults to be hosted in The Grove gallery.
- Developed free art making classes for kids to help promote "The Great Bloom"
- Starting on April 13th, we will be expanding our gallery hours. We will officially be open on Sundays from 10 AM till 3 PM! However we will no longer be open late on Thursday nights.

Upcoming Events:

- **Mar 27:** Social Studio Night: Lino Session #2, 6:30 - 8:30.
Jillian Mayne's last class for her Social Studio night Series, we have greatly appreciated all her work and variety of lessons she has taught. This class is sold out, but participants will learn how to make their own lino print stamp!
- **Mar 29, Apr 5, Apr 12:** The Great Bloom Art Making for Kids 10 AM - 2 PM (Free art making for kids at the Grove Gallery to promote "The Great Bloom").
During these creative sessions, children will have the opportunity to immerse themselves in the world of The Great Bloom. They will explore the play's forest, create their own character, and explore the indigenous plants that shape the setting of the play
- **Apr 3:** Ann McIvor & Sue Thomas joint exhibit, "It's a Long Story" Opening Reception 6:30 PM - 8:30 PM



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This is a nice way to officially launch this incredible exhibit. Come see the amazing nature themed paintings on display as well as oceanic themed pottery. There will be live music and refreshments!

- **Apr 5:** Ann McIvor & Sue Thomas Meet & Greet 1 PM - 3 PM
Here is a more casual event where you can chat and meet the artists, refreshments will be served.
- **Apr 9:** Watercolour Wednesdays at the Grove hosted by Adrianna 5:30 PM – 7:30 PM
These classes will run twice a month, offering participants the chance to explore introductory watercolour techniques.
- **Apr 10:** Playhouse Paint Night, Capitol Theatre, 6 PM - 8 PM.
We're putting the fun in fundraiser by hosting our first official paint night. 100% of ticket sales go to the CAC and 100% of the drinks sales goes to the Capitol Theater!
- **Apr 12:** Susan Schaefer Workshop "April Showers Bring May Flowers". 10 AM - 2 PM
Get away from the drizzly Gray weather by painting some cheery flowers with professional artist susan schaefer! Participants will be provided a supplies list beforehand. Participants can also bring their own reference images of a flower, but Susan can also provide one as well.
- **Apr 13:** Open on Sundays from 10 AM- 3 PM.
- **Apr 19:** The Great Bloom, ADSS Auditorium, 1 PM - 2 PM.
Join us for a wonderful, family friendly performance from the Story Theatre in Victoria. Held at the ADSS Auditorium, this show is sure to be fun! "A brand-new Canadian comedy by Sydney Marino about discovering the value we can add to the world, even, or especially, when our path looks different from others!"
- **May 1:** Opening reception: "The Wednesday Collection" by the Wednesday Painters. This show will feature 16 artists, with a great variety of watercolour, oil, silk fusion, and other artforms as well!
- **May 9th 6 PM - 8 PM & May 10th 9 AM - 3 PM:** MASSIVE Book Sale, Athletic Hall.
Be sure to drop off your gently used books, puzzles, and CD's in the white bin outside of The Grove. Or call ahead at 250-724-3412. This year the book sale will also have the Mt. Klitsa Gardening Club with their plant sale, as well as a live reading from local author Evelyn Thompson-George from her book "The Defiant 511 of The Alberni Residential School".
- **May 31:** Kids Workshop in collaboration with the Museum. Details to be announced.



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B. SD 70 – Pacific Rim

Next public meeting of the Board of Education is Tuesday April 2 at 5pm at the Board Office.

1. Spring break from March 17 to Mar 28 – schools opened Monday March 31.
2. Partner Liaison Meeting with Board Chairs, Secretary Treasurers, Superintendents and the Ministry of Education and Child Care were held March 7 & 8, in Richmond. The Ministry meeting focused on Student Safety initiatives, First Nations Education and Cyber Security for Districts. The Board also attended the Vancouver Island School Trustees Association (VISTA) meetings in Victoria on March 8 & 9. The conference was hosted by 3 districts of Sooke, Saanich and Victoria.
3. Several Trustees attended the Land Based Learning program at Loon Lake on March 12. Students shared their learning with a Circle gathering. We had a wonderful Camp lunch of potato soup, BBQ (over campfire) Salmon and fried bread. Students were going canoeing in the afternoon.
4. I toured the Nourish Cowichan facility on March 28 located in a former Middle School Ecole Provost in Cowichan. Pacific Rim has partnered with Nourish Cowichan a non-profit organization for the Valley schools and Ucluelet schools lunch program.

C. Chamber of Commerce – NO REPORT FOR APRIL



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D. McLean Mill



McLean Mill National Historic Site Update, Apr 2nd, 2025

Prepared by Elliot Drew

March has begun preparations for getting our 2025 season underway. We have once again retained PAACL to act as our grounds crew for the year and they have begun work to clean up the site after the off season and ensure we are looking our best for the upcoming events. We are finalizing job postings to flush out our staff for our May 16th opening and marketing and promotional materials are in the final stages.

We hosted our first wedding of the season on Mar 14th and are finalizing the calendar for the rest of the year. We have decided to continue our kitchen rental with V9Y Catering though out the season and will be partnering with them on some exciting food and beverage opportunities for our guests. Our Campground is now open for booking on our website and early registration is up from last year. Both private and educational tour groups have already begun booking for what is looking like our busiest season yet

Our calendar of events continues to fill for 2025 through 2026 with both private and community events requesting information.

Important Upcoming Dates:

John Paul II School Tour – Apr 1st

McLean Mill 10KM Race – Apr 6th

Salmon Fest AGM – Apr 9th

Chamber of Commerce Breakfast – Apr 23

Alberni Bowmen Weekend Shoot – Apr 25th-27th

Heritage Commission Meeting – May 7th

Chamber of Commerce AGM – May 14th

Opening Day of Regular Operations – May 16th

Grad Photo Day – Jun 21st

Wedding – Jun 28th

As always we are proud to be the steward of this local treasure and deeply grateful to share it's story with our quest



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E. Historical Society

ALBERNI DISTRICT HISTORICAL SOCIETY REPORT

APRIL 2, 2025

- Volunteer hours last month were 170. Volunteers are busy inspecting old files making sure there are no duplicates.
- New items are being entered in our In-Magic program. This program numbers all the "treasures" we have – just like the Dewey-Decimal system libraries use.
- The latest "A Look Back at the Early Days of The Alberni Valley" (our Facebook article by Diane Dobson) features The Telegraph, established in 1879. Read and forward it to someone you think might be interested in the History of the Alberni Valley.
- The Archives is open Tues-Thur. 11am to 3 pm.



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F. Maritime Heritage Society

**Port Alberni Maritime Heritage Society
April 2 , 2025 Report to the Heritage Commission**

Current Hours

The Gallery and the Lighthouse have now reopened for regular public viewing with hours as follows:

- Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, Saturday and Sunday 11am to 3pm

In addition, tours outside these hours may still be arranged by contacting Dale Gross the Facilities Coordinator at the below noted contact information.

"Teak Lady" Restoration

Our volunteers have recently started the renovation of the this lovely little vessel. As the name implies it is made entirely of teak wood and as a result it is still in very solid shape even though it is over 100 years old. If you are interested in knowing more about this vessel's interesting local and international history check the blog on our website. If you are interested in getting involved with its restoration please give us a call.

Lighthouse Painting

Dave Eamer Painting has been hired to undertake this work starting in early June. This work will complete the exterior renovation of the Lighthouse started in 2024 which also included a new roof, new siding and electrical/hvac upgrades.

Contact Information

Telephone	250-723-6164
Website	portalbernimaritimeheritage.ca
Facebook	maritimediscoverycentre
Email	portalbernimhs@gmail.com

Respectfully Submitted

Ken Watson , PAMHS Rep



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G. Industrial Heritage Society

WVHHS - April 2, 2025 Report

1. General WVHHS Information:

* The WVHHS has officially hired Richard Spencer as a part-time Operations Manager of the Alberni Pacific Railway.

2. Alberni Pacific Railway – from Richard Spencer, APR Manager:

1. The APR Management Committee of the WVHHS has submitted a 5-Year Plan to the City of Port Alberni for consideration towards a 5-Year Operating Agreement.
2. Work continues at the APR Roundhouse, on the Mosher Passenger Coach, Shop Lead Tie Replacement, #11 Locomotive Brake Replacement and getting the CN Caboose prepped for service.
3. We are currently running fundraisers to help with the above projects which combined see a total expense of just over \$30,000, and we are planning some additional fundraising programs in the near future.
4. We are getting many inquiries already regarding 2025 Operations and hope to have an agreement in place with the City as soon as possible to be able to promote our future operations and begin selling tickets for the 2025 Season. To help with this, we have started a email list for interested parties to subscribe to be kept up to date with operations, promotions, announcement, and to get advance notice of ticket sales, including for the Santa Train.

3. Industrial Heritage Centre – David Hooper, Bob East & Paul Blake

a. Pop Up Gift Store -

The store opened for the "Family Day" Event stocked with WVHHS souvenirs (pins, mugs, hats & t-shirts) and will be open at future Special I.H.C. Events & will sell items by request.

b. Visits & Events in March: We are experiencing an 'uptick' in the number of visitors.

1. Big start to Spring Children's Programmes at the IHC:
 - 3 Daycare groups hosted –
 - AV Saplings (2 groups)
 - Stepping Stones (Alberni Elementary) (1 group)
 - 2 Spring Break groups from AV Museum
2. Adult groups--
 - 1 group from PA Community Living
 - 1 busload of Seniors from Fir Park Village -
 - could drive right inside our building, to make visit easier.
3. March 29 - "Block Party / Family Day" - in conjunction with the Curling Club was a big success, with more than 100 visitors, with many young children.



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c. Upcoming Events in April:

1. April 8 - Social

Hosting Retired Forestry Workers Social 1-3 p.m. at the IHC

Will be extra displays for visitors –

Don Watt Franklin River logging albums

Fred Boyko 'Old-time logging' photo display

Hank Bakken's Logging models

2. April 13 – Parade

Will be taking part in 'Vaisakhi Parade' from Guru Nanak Temple - bringing vintage trucks

d. Industrial Heritage Centre – Shop:

- Pedenault 1947 Hayes truck - engine now running with some body work still outstanding
- 1958 Hayes - still chasing down another generator or repair parts
- Main parts room - reorganizing, cleanup continues.
- RR caboose - continue fabricating parts as needed for braking system
- Large pallet boxes - collection of parts stored on North wall - starting on sorting out and "thinning out" - looking and hoping to find local networks that would allow us to post these surplus items so others may enjoy vs going into the scrap bin.

4. McLean Mill Logging Show – Ron Corbeil & David Hooper

- a. The WVIHS President, Ron Corbeil made a presentation to Mayor & Council on the history of the Steam Logging Demonstration and what the Society needs from the City in order to present in 2025. (COW March 11, 2025)

Update: At this time, there will not be an Old-Time Logging Show at McLean Mill.

5. WVIHS Memberships

- * Memberships are now available for 2025.

Anyone wanting to renew a membership or become a member of the WVIHS can do so by visiting the Industrial Heritage Center during open hours or going online to www.ihsportalberni.ca/membership.

Respectfully Submitted by,

Leslie Walerius

Western Vancouver Island Industrial Heritage Society



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H. City Council

City Council Meeting Summary

March 24, 2025

*An information report summarizing the regular meeting of Council
held on March 24, 2025.*

These are not the official minutes.

*For more information, please contact the Corporate Services department
at 250.723.2146 or email: corp_serv@portalberni.ca.*

BYLAWS

Solid Waste Collection and Disposal Bylaw No. 5120, 2025 was introduced and given three readings. Upon adoption of the amended bylaw will establish the cost of the service and equity; and design rates to meet objectives of conservation and associated billings.

Business License Regulation Bylaw No. 4951-03 was introduced and given three readings. Upon adoption this bylaw will have a clear definition of a special event licenses and charges for non-profit organizations and community events.

"Official Community Plan Amendment Bylaw No. 5118" and "Zoning Amendment (6123 & 6151 Russell Place) Bylaw No. 5119" were introduced, given first and second reading, and advanced to a Public Hearing to be held Monday, April 28, 2025 at 6:00 pm in City Hall Council Chambers. These bylaws, upon adoption would create a new institutional "P3 Care Campus" zone for care facilities with accessory rental housing, and limited services to support their residents.

CORRESPONDENCE

Council received their correspondence summary which included letters from:

- a. Union of British Columbia Municipalities | 2024 Resolution Deferment
- b. Honourable MP Gord Johns | Federal Capital Investments
- c. Alberni-Clayoquot Regional District | Keeping you Connected January/February 2025
- d. Trans Mountain Pipeline | Expansion Project Progress Report
- e. British Columbia Lottery Corporation | 2024 Community Impact Report
- f. Alberni Valley Museum and Heritage Commission | February 5, 2025 Minutes



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PROCLAMATIONS

On behalf of Victoria and Vancouver Island Greek Community Society, Council proclaimed March 25, 2025 as 'Greek Heritage Day' in Port Alberni.

REPORT FROM IN CAMERA

Council released for public consumption the appointment of A. Woods and C. Schult to the Advisory Planning Commission for a for a two-year term commencing March 10, 2025-December 31, 2026.

Council released for public consumption Notice of its Intent to lease Unit #9 to F. Cienfuegos for the operation of a shop serving snacks and basic apparel and Unit #13 to L. Harrison for the operation of Blue Fish Gallery at the Alberni Harbour Quay for two-year terms.

Council released for public consumption support of the Collaborative Community Economic Development Agreement between the Hupačasath First Nation, City of Port Alberni, and Tseshah First Nation to work together on collaborative community economic development defined as: community development that integrates economic, cultural, social, and environmental objectives that benefit members of all three communities, building stronger, and more sustainable communities and a broader regional economy.

NEW BUSINESS

Municipal Alcohol Policy

Council directed Administration to work with Island Health to develop a draft Municipal Alcohol Policy.

Alberni Clayoquot Health Network | Living Wage Calculation

Council supported in principle completion of the Living Wage calculation for Port Alberni by the Alberni Clayoquot Health Network.



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QUESTION PERIOD

B. Caughton

Commented on community policing.

T. Dunn

Inquired about budget cuts and service level adjustments.

B. Kanngiesser

Inquired about the council correspondence process and the City's tariff response.

L. Walerius

Inquired about seniors housing developments and property assessments.

J. Leskosek

Inquired about the City's ability to determine service level changes with BC Transit and the public notice process for public hearings.



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I. Regional District



ALBERNI-CLAYOQUOT REGIONAL DISTRICT

KEEPING YOU CONNECTED

Highlights from the Alberni-Clayoquot Regional District (ACRD) Board of Directors Meetings - January/February 2025

JANUARY 15 & 29 AND FEBRUARY 12 & 26

DELEGATIONS & PRESENTATIONS

- Joanne Sales, executive director of Broom Busters Invasive Plant Society made a presentation to the Board updating them on the successes and challenges faced by volunteers. Their goal is to recruit more volunteers so they can make a larger difference when it comes to dealing with the problem Scottish Broom creates.
- Will King, president of Waymark Architecture presented the Needs and Opportunities Assessment for the ACRD Office Building to the Board.
- Reana Miller, communications and community development for Community Futures Alberni-Clayoquot, and Christopher Hall, president of the Riders of the Alberni Valley, offered an introduction to the Adventure Sport Park Project.
- Acting Chair for the Sproat Lake Property Owners Association Ross Curtis spoke to the Board about some of the concerns they have for the Sproat Lake area and a request for increased communication from the board, staff and their electoral area director.
- The ACRD's Chief Financial Officer made a presentation of the Draft 2025-2029 Financial Plan for the public consultation part of the budget process. There were no questions from the public attending in person or through Zoom or email.
- Colin Robinson, program coordinator for the Clayoquot Biosphere Trust made a presentation to the Board about the West Coast Regional Climate Planning Project. Later in the meeting, the Board passed a motion to direct staff to work with the Clayoquot Biosphere Trust to apply for grant funding to support Community Climate Action plan development, which will set targets for both mitigation and adaptation actions for the Alberni-Clayoquot Regional District, and to offer collaboration on areas of mutual alignment with all member municipalities and interested First Nations.



Team ACRD raised \$2,280 for the 2025 Coldest Night of the Year. Thanks to all the generous people who supported us.

CORRESPONDENCE FOR ACTION & INFORMATION

- The Board of Directors received an invitation to join the next planning meeting regarding the FIFA 2026 World Cup. Alternate Director Harley Wylie was appointed to the planning committee for the Port Alberni friendly soccer matches during the FIFA 2026 World Cup.
- The Board of Directors passed a motion to provide a letter to the Canadian Union of Postal Workers to highlight the importance of mail delivery service in the rural communities in the Alberni-Clayoquot region.
- The Board supported sending Beaver Creek Alternate Director Harley Wylie to attend the 2025 LGLA Leadership Forum in Richmond on March 12-14, 2025.



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**Highlights from the Alberni-Clayoquot Regional District (ACRD)
Board of Directors Meetings - January/February 2025**

JANUARY 15 & 29 AND FEBRUARY 12 & 26



The ACRD staff also took part in Pink Shirt Day on February 26.

CONTRACTS & AGREEMENTS

- The Board awarded the Long Beach Fire Flow Pump Station Generator to Ridgeline Mechanical Ltd. in the amount of \$325,160.92 (excluding GST).
- The Board approved entering a five-year lease agreement with Pacific Rim National Park Reserve, to lease building and land at the Long Beach Airport, effective April 1, 2024.
- The Solid Waste, Recycling, and Reduction Education and Outreach Consultant contract was awarded by the board to Let's Talk Trash for \$75,400 on a one-year term.
- Marcie DeWitt was awarded the three-year contract to be the coordinator of the Alberni-Clayoquot Health Network by the Board in the amount of \$321,337.50 (excluding GST).
- The Board awarded the Kitsukis Watermain Replacement contract to Bowerman Construction Ltd. in the amount of \$514,070 (excluding GST) plus a 10% project contingency.
- The Board award the Alberni-Emergency Communication & Public Notification Plan contract to Adriane Brown Group Inc. in the amount of \$60,700.00 (excluding GST).

PLANNING DECISIONS

Development Variance Applications

Issued:

- DVB24011 - Beaufort
- DVE24014 - Beaver Creek

Rezoning and Bylaws

Considered a first time and proceeding to public input:

- RE24012 - Beaver Creek
- RF24015 - Cherry Creek

Approved:

- RE24010 - Beaver Creek
- RD24005 - Sproat Lake

STAFF & MEMBER REPORTS

- Following the presentation of the Needs and Opportunities Assessment for the ACRD Office Building by Waymark Architecture the board discussed it and then passed a motion to direct staff to advance with the development of a detailed business case for constructing a new building on a new site, that includes confirmed collaboration opportunities with other partners and vetted revenue sources. The funding for the plan was allocated in 2024 and does not require additional funding for 2025.
- **ACRD Procedures Bylaw Review** - The Board of Directors will be reviewing and updating Bylaw No. A1075, Regional District of Alberni-Clayoquot Procedures Bylaw, in 2025. This review will include the requirements as set out in the Local Government Act and other content that will establish overall effective and efficient governing procedures.
- **Agricultural Water Plan Project Background Report** - Upland Agricultural Consulting and ACRD staff have developed a Background Research Report for the Agricultural Water Plan Project. This report provides a foundation for the Agricultural Water Plan, outlining key information on previous agricultural water work that will inform ongoing engagement and the final report.
- **Food Security Emergency Planning Project Background Report** - Upland Agricultural Consulting and ACRD staff developed a Background Research Report for the Food Security Emergency Planning project which outlines key information on both emergency planning and agricultural food production, it will inform ongoing engagement and the final report.



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**Highlights from the Alberni-Clayoquot Regional District (ACRD)
Board of Directors Meetings - January/February 2025**

JANUARY 15 & 29 AND FEBRUARY 12 & 26

REQUEST FOR DECISIONS

- The Board adopted Bylaw A1088 'A Bylaw to Establish a Standing Committee Known as the Salmon Beach Committee as this bylaw is not required by legislation. The Board amended the Salmon Beach Committee Terms of Reference extending the member terms from one year to three years to be consistent with other committees.
- The Board approved a Contribution Agreement for \$600,000 with the Cherry Creek Waterworks District to provide the organization Community Works Funding for construction of Phase one of the new Cherry Creek Fire Hall.
- The Board set the date for the Parcel Tax Roll Review Panel sitting for February 26, 2025 at 12:30 pm. They appointed Directors Haggard, Sparrow, and Roth to the Panel, with Director Beckett as an alternate. ACRD Chief Financial Officer Teri Fong will be the Collector for 2025.
- The Board endorsed submitting an Island Rail Corridor-related resolution to the 2025 Association of Vancouver Island and Coastal Communities (AVICC) Convention. The resolution is that the Association of Vancouver Island Coastal Communities request that the Province of British Columbia prioritize funding the minimum required upgrades to the west to east section of the Island Rail corridor to allow for its use in the event of a wildfire or highway closure.
- Board supported applying for a grant to the British Columbia Water Meter Pilot Project for the ACRD Water Meter Installation and Replacement Project and directed staff, if successful, to commit the ACRD to the completion of this infrastructure project by March 31, 2027.
- The motion to amend the Alberni Valley Regional Airport Advisory Committee Terms of Reference to add an additional Alberni Valley Director for a total of two Alberni Valley Directors was approved and Director Sparrow was appointed to the Committee.



The ACRD Board of Directors wore their pink shirts on February 26. They joined individuals and other organizations and businesses in marking Pink Shirt Day. This day was created to raise awareness of bullying and to help stop it.

- The motion to amend the Alberni Valley Regional Airport Advisory Committee Terms of Reference to add an additional Alberni Valley Director for a total of two Alberni Valley Directors was approved and Director Sparrow was appointed to the Committee.
- The Board adopted "Bylaw E1052-7, Beaver Creek Fire Protection Service Amendment, 2024." This expanded the boundaries of the Beaver Creek Fire Department service area to include the geographically adjacent service areas of Granville Road Fire Protection and Mountain Ranch Road Fire Protection to simplify the governance structure and eliminate the redundant services.
- West Coast Transit Fees and Charges Bylaw Amendment, Bylaw No. F1166-2 passed. This amended the West Coast Transit Fees and Charges Bylaw to incorporate BC Transit fares effective March 1, 2025.
- The Board adopted Bylaw No. F1148-4, Beaver Creek Local Service Area Rates and Regulations, Amendment Bylaw, 2025. This approves an increase of the quarterly water rates by \$7.38 for Single Family Residential and \$9.01 per quarter for secondary services on the same lot and commercial connections, effective April 1, 2025.

The next Board of Director meetings take place on March 12 and 26.



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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

March 26, 2025

Alberni-Clayoquot Regional District adopts 2025-2029 Financial Plan

ALBERNI-CLAYOQUOT REGIONAL DISTRICT – The Alberni-Clayoquot Regional District (ACRD) Board of Directors adopted the 2025-2029 Financial Plan Bylaw, at the regular meeting on March 26, 2025.

The plan is the result of significant discussion and includes financial increases targeted to address the evolving needs of our region while ensuring fiscal responsibility and sustainability. The newly adopted plan outlines a strategic approach to managing operational cost increases on key services including transit and water, maintaining current levels for most ACRD services, while also responding to updated legislation and regulation requirements through grants and partnerships. The development of this plan included multiple community meetings across the region to gather community feedback. The insights gained from these engagement sessions assist in better understanding the priorities of our residents and we appreciate all those that took time to attend.

The 2025 budget is approximately \$31 million. The financial plan includes a tax increase of 7.11 per cent, including the Regional Hospital District Annual Budget. Approximately \$11 million is budgeted for capital projects, and the ACRD anticipates 61 per cent of the funds for these projects will come from grant funding.

"The ACRD recognizes the challenging economic times we are facing and has developed this plan to ensure we can continue to provide essential services without compromising our financial stability," explains ACRD Board Chair John Jack.

Some of the key drivers that been included in this five-year financial plan include:

- First full year of the West Coast Transit service including a transition to a BC Transit led service on March 1, 2025
- Expansion of Alberni Valley Custom Transit service by 1,300 hours per year to support additional peak weekday trips and the introduction of Saturday service
- Strengthening the Emergency Planning network in the region, including the development of an Emergency Cultural Awareness and Safety Plan, as well as a Communication and Public Notification Plan
- Official Community Plan engagement and updates for Electoral Area "C" - Long Beach and "D" - Sproat Lake
- Completion of the feasibility study regarding an alternate water supply for Beaver Creek
- Bamfield Water System replacement of the submarine line connecting East and West Bamfield
- Agricultural Water Plan Project to explore supply and distribution options in the Alberni Valley
- Continue discussions regarding governance models for the proposed Alberni Valley Aquatics Facility and a feasibility study of a renovation of the existing Echo Aquatic Centre
- Expansion of Sproat Lake Fire Hall #3 – Harold Bishop to address safety and space concerns
- Continued advocacy for a secondary route into the Alberni Valley

The Financial Plan document summarizes each area, including potential increases in costs and taxation. The summary identifies the cost to each jurisdiction according to the services provided and the total overall requisition changes from the prior year. It also includes details on each of the service budgets. You can view this at: [2025-2029 Financial Plan](#). If you have any questions, please email budget@acrd.bc.ca.

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K. Community at Large – NO REPORT FOR APRIL

L. Museum

AVM | MARCH AT A GLANCE

GENERAL ATTENDANCE:	1422
PROGRAMS:	23
INSTRUCTIONAL HOURS	208
(STRUCTURED LEARNING):	1300
HOURS OPEN TO PUBLIC:	142
OBJECT CARED FOR:	~5,400
REPOSITORY AGREEMENTS:	7

EXHIBITIONS |

Best love, Bob: 1908 Postcards from New Alberni is on exhibition from February 11 to March 8, 2025.

Robert (Bob) Blandy would become Port Alberni's first city clerk. In 1908, as a young man newly arrived in the emerging settlement of New Alberni, he used postcards to show his family in Ontario, the development of his new home. The postcards provide contemporary comments on early images of the settler community in the Alberni Valley.

Resist (18 March – 12 July, 2025)

Resist is an exhibition featuring artworks by members of the Fibre Art Network, a cooperative based in Western Canada dedicated to advancing fibre as an art form. In this context, the double entendre of *Resist* refers both to the techniques employed in fabric manipulation and to methods of social activism. Visitors are encouraged to explore the diverse techniques applied to fabric while also reflecting on contemporary issues concerning the human condition.

PROGRAMS | FAMILY/CHILDRENS PROGRAMS: 16 TOTAL

- Two weeks of Spring Break Camps (5-12)
- Birthday Parties (Ages 5-10 years)
- Museum Minis – Pre-K
- SD 70 – School Tours
- PAACL (girls group)

ADULT PROGRAMS: 7 TOTAL

- Fibre Guild Mending Event
- Spinners & Weavers | Knitters
- TIFF Film Series



Heritage Commission Meeting
April 2nd, 2025
Minutes

M. Hupačasath First Nation – no report

N. čišaaʔath (Tseshaht) First Nation – no report

7. Next Meeting

A. May 7th, 7pm (McLean Mill)

8. Moved by Pam Craig to adjourn at 9:30 pm.