

Albemi Outlook 20/20 Council

Open Space Proceedings

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Phase 1: **Invitation Alberni Outlook 20/20 invites you to become involved in a series of discussions about the Alberni Valley.**

Please join us for a discussion about the Future of the Alberni Valley. Our purpose is simple and important: we need your thoughts on the issues and opportunities surrounding the present and future of the Alberni Valley. We hope to mix past experience, present realities and all our hopes and dreams to shape the future of the Alberni Valley. It is hoped that this discussion will go along way towards the resolution of current issues and realization of untapped potential in the Valley.

You have been invited because you are passionate about the community and have skills, experiences and insights that are essential to make it better.

Date/Time **Wednesday, October 20th** **7:00 – 10:00 pm**
 Sunday, November 7th **1:30 – 4:30 pm**
 Wednesday, November 24th **1:30 – 4:30 pm**

Location: Cedar Rooms, Echo Centre

Process: This process will utilize an Open Space format, enabling all issues and opportunities for which you have passion and for which you are prepared to take responsibility, to be identified and discussed. For more information on Open Space, please see inside.

Our promises to you:

1. Before we leave each meeting, every issue of concern to anybody will be on the table, if they choose to put it there.
2. All issues will receive as full a discussion as you choose to give them.
3. You will receive a written record of the discussions and recommendations.

That's a promise. ...if you walk out of the meeting muttering to yourself that we never talked about the really important issues that you cared about, please notice that the person responsible for that is you.

Differences of opinion do exist, but it is out of this rich diversity that powerful new futures can be formed now. Where there is agreement, we can move forward. Where there is difference we can seek understanding, common ground, and workable compromise. None of this can happen without open, honest conversation and caring from each and every one of us.

As a result of a series of these meetings, we will have:

- gathered new ideas, resources and people and connected them to these issues,
- documented all of this in somewhere between 5 and 500 pages of notes and next steps,
- established strategic themes, clear priorities, actions steps,
- distributed all of this information to a (re)energized and action-ready community of people,
- empowered them to tell that story to the rest of the organization, community, or world, and
- seeded cycles of invitation that will continue to pull people into places where they can maximize their own learning and contribution.

It's time to get to work. Please join us on October 4th and/or 20th to discuss the issues and opportunities for the Alberni Valley that you care about. Your participation is important to our success! Please call Sylvia at 723-7185 or Theresa at 720-2506 to confirm your attendance.

Please join us... and be prepared to be surprised.

Open Space Technology: A Summary

A bit about Open Space Technology: "Open Space is recognized internationally as an innovative approach to more productive meetings. Groups large and small regularly demonstrate the capacity to rapidly create effective meeting agendas and deal with highly conflicted and complex issues. More remarkably, the meeting once created, is completely self managed by the group." (New York Times)

What is Open Space Technology?

Open Space Technology is one way to enable all kinds of people, in any kind of organization, to create inspired meetings and events. Over the last 15 years, it has also become clear that opening space, as an intentional leadership practice, can create inspired organizations, where ordinary people work together to create extraordinary results with regularity.

In Open Space meetings, events and organizations, participants create and manage their own agenda of parallel working sessions around a central theme of strategic importance, such as: What is the strategy, group, organization or community that all stakeholders can support and work together to create?

With groups of 5 to 1000 -- working in one-day workshops, three-day conferences, or a regular meeting -- the common result is a powerful, effective connecting and strengthening of what's already happening in the organization: planning and action, learning and doing, passion and responsibility, participation and performance.

When and Why?

Open Space works best when the work to be done is complex, the people and ideas involved are diverse, the passion for resolution (and potential for conflict) are high, and the time to get it done was yesterday. It's been called passion bounded by responsibility, the energy of a good coffee break, intentional self-organization, spirit at work, chaos and creativity, evolution in organization, and a simple, powerful way to get people and organizations moving -- when and where it's needed most.

And, while Open Space is known for its apparent lack of structure and welcoming of surprises, it turns out that the Open Space meeting is actually very structured -- but that structure is so perfectly fit to the people and the work at hand, that it goes unnoticed in its proper role of supporting (not blocking) best work. In fact, the stories and work plans woven in Open Space are generally more complex, more robust, more durable -- and can move a great deal faster than expert or management driven designs.

What will happen?

We never know exactly what will happen when we open the space for people to do their most important work, but we can guarantee these results when any group gets into Open Space...

1. All of the issues that are MOST important to the participants will be raised.
2. All of the issues raised will be addressed by those participants most qualified and capable of getting something done on each of them.

3. In a short time, all of the most important ideas, discussion, data, recommendations, conclusions, questions for further study, and plans for action will be documented in one comprehensive report.
4. When appropriate, and when time is allowed for it, the total contents of this report document can be focused and prioritized in a matter of a few hours, even with very large groups (100's).
5. After an event, all of these results can be made available to an entire organization or community within days of the event, so the conversation can invite every stakeholder into implementation -- right now.
6. AND... results like these can be planned and implemented faster than any other kind of so-called "large-group intervention." It is literally possible to accomplish in days and weeks what some other approaches take months and years to do.

The good news, and the bad news, is that it works. Good news because it gets people and work moving, bad news because that may mean lots of things are going to be different than before. Wanted things can appear, unwanted things disappear, and sometime vice versa -- but that's how life is.

In short, then, Open Space brings life back to organization and organizations back to life.

Open Space Technology - Four Principles and One Law

1. **"Whoever comes are the right people"** acknowledges that the only people really qualified or able to do great work on any issue are those who really care, and freely choose to be involved.
2. **"Whenever it starts is the right time"** recognizes that spirit and creativity don't run on the clock, so while we're here, we'll all keep a vigilant watch for great ideas and new insights, which can happen at anytime.
3. **"Whatever happens is the only thing that could have"** allows everyone to let go of the could haves, would haves and should haves, so that we can give our full attention to the reality of what is happening, is working, and is possible right now.
4. And finally, **"When it's over, it's over"** acknowledges that you never know just how long it'll take to deal with a given issue, and reminds us that getting the work done is more important than sticking to an arbitrary schedule. Taken together, these principles say "work hard, pay attention, but be prepared to be surprised!"

The one law is **The Law of Two Feet**, or in some cases, The Law of Personal Mobility. It says simply that you, and only you, know where you can learn and contribute the most to the work that must take place today. It demands that you use your two feet to go where you need to go and do what you need to do. If at any time during the meeting, you find that you are not learning or contributing, you have the right and the responsibility to move... find another breakout session, visit the food table, take a walk, make a phone call -- but DO NOT waste time.



Phase 1 - The Theme

**Your thoughts on the
issues and opportunities surrounding
the present and future of the
Alberni Valley**

Opens Space Proceedings

**Albemi Outlook 20/20
Open Space Forum #1 Proceedings
September 23rd, 2004**

Participants:

Cathy Burkosky
Robert Cole
Michelle Colussi
Barbara Cooper
Darlene Coulson
Gary Dawson-Quatell
Sandi Dixon
Lome Dixon

Craig Duncan ,
Leah Fontaine
Anne Graboski
Phil Guild
Roy Gunter-Smith
Kathy Gunter-Smith
Ron Jorgenson
Terry McFadden

Diana Olson
Dawn Onyschtschuk
Ann Seigny
Ginny Stephen
Rick Taylor
Bridgette Taylor
Penn Thrasher
Bernadette Wyton

Outlook 20/20 members:

Theresa Kingston
Don Mallon
Jack McLeman

Darrin Olson
Bonnie Ruttan
Sylvia Springer

Barb Stevenson
Gary Swann
Keith Wyton

Opening

Keith Wyton, Co Chair Albemi Outlook 20/20, welcomed participants and gave a brief history of the formation/history of Albemi Outlook 20/20.

Theresa Kingston reviewed the Open Space process and invited participants to submit agenda items for dialogue.

**Group Dialogue Sessions
Round 1 –7:30 –8:15 pm**

Topic: Aging Infrastructure (Schools, leisure facilities, police, fire)
Convener: Rick Taylor
Dialogue Participants: Bridgette Taylor Dawn Onyschtshuk, Keith Wyton
Note taker: Keith Wyton
Summary of Discussion:

- Most community facilities are 1960's era
- Long range plan
- Cross jurisdictional
- Cusp of development
- Proactive rather than responsive
- Ratio of retail space to population
- Underground services
- Planning for growth
- Diverse range of recreation

- Entrepreneurial activity

Topic: Utilizing the Waterfront

Convener: Phil Guild

Dialogue Participants: Robert Cole Craig Duncan Barbara Cooper
 Bernadette Wyton Terry McFadden Bonnie Ruttan
 Gary Swann Sandi :Qixon Diana Olson
 Penn Thrasher

Note taker: Bonnie Ruttan, Gary Swann ,

Summary of Discussion:

- Some development, but not enough
- Perhaps developing a board walk in sections from foot of Johnson to Harbour Quay
- City owns plywood mill site. There could be a focus on changing mandate to allow different types of development.
- Granville Island is a good model. Portland, Oregon is a good model.
- Make mill and industry part of focus.
- Tourists are interested in industrial as well as tourist venues
- North Port is a natural development centre.
- The foot of Johnson development needs to quite substantial to draw tourists
- Bird sanctuary is spectacular
- White Rock and Crescent Beach have beautiful walkways -stimulates commercial development
- Walkway development needs to be focused on Harbour Quay
- Weyerhaeuser controls land -what political influence can be brought to bear?
- Tourists aren't drawn to Wal-Mart, etc.
- They want pleasant
- South Port has had it. It has been propped up. North Port is the natural area for development.
- Steam Train should be parked by Johnson where tourists can see it.
- Nelson has seen massive development during the past ten years. The city has a vision and has created attractive setting.
- We have no community plan.
- Cart is before the horse. Development is not being driven by local citizens.
- Investors from other places are developing.
- City is focusing on major industrial development.
- A good city plan should be able to accommodate everyone.
- Industrial development can be directed.
- The city doesn't look appealing –like a garbage dump.
- Driving into town, the view is not impressive.
- Nanaimo is developing the downtown area –in a good q quality manner
- People are moving here because it offers possibilities and is a safe place for children.
- Can't do taxation issues
- Parochialism -divided political jurisdiction hinders development
- Key development
- Port Authority help on waterfront development

Topic: Explore new ways to integrate and deliver community services

Convener: Ron Jorgenson

Dialogue Participants: Cathy Burkosky Leah Fontaine Sylvia Springer
 Barb Stevenson Michelle Colussi Anne Sevigny
 Penn Thrasher

Note taker: Barb Stevenson

Summary of Discussion:

- 0-6 level great success
- 6-12 great gap in services and end up dealing with outcomes only
- Compartmentalizing services like government does
- How do we get past competitiveness among services -the dollars coming down the pike
- Competitiveness is a key -must have reason to work (to have common strategy) together
- Only 20% of people look beyond their own issues
- Locked into our own patterns
- Govennent structures restricts
- Social engineered family model is great in a family way
- Need to be careful about terms
- Addressing isolation -socialization
- Generate passion
- All agencies in commitment to work together
- Need to be attached to our children, our community
- No model of partnership between business and government
- Overwork? -Not able to stretch beyond, reframe our work and address problems
- Work would be less difficult
- Key to communication
- Bring all service organizations to key place so that they share space and work together

Topic: Ways to make our community Thrive

Convener: Darlene Coulson

Topic: How can we generate passion and involvement in this work for a wider part of the community?

Convener: Anne Graboski

(Conveners agreed to combine topics)

Dialogue Participants: Darrin Olson Lorne Dixon Nicole Milne
 Ginny Stephen Roy Gunter-Smith Kathy Gunter-Smith

Note taker: Don Mallon, Darrin Olson

Summary of Discussion:

- Town looks tired -retirement -mainly lack of young people
- Positive feeling about small town, easy to get things done; rather than a large City of Port Alberni apathy from the long time residents; people new to town see the potential
- Town looks drab when you drive in –our entrance to the city can't even read the sign; auto wreckers as you come into town; still a division as you drive into town – Alberni and Port Alberni; nothing to stop for as you drive through to the coast.
- Very few housing starts
- You need economic vibrancy to get young people
- Young people need work
- Need 2nd route into town -Horne Lake to Island Highway
- Need to sell positive feeling to the people living here
- City Hall is not pro active; they are complaint driven!!
- Give face lift to your property, get a break on taxes – business and residential
- People who live here don't realize how many new people are now living here
- Positive news stories from our media i.e. paper/radio
- Port Alberni needs an ambassador

- Need to sell a positive feeling about Port to long term residents
- We need more communication about what is happening in Port Alberni
- The town looks tired
- New generation doesn't see a future
- Others from elsewhere know this is the place to be
- Too much anonymity in larger towns
- Small town give you the chance to connect with others and help others
- Dull drab, no colour
- Welcome -not there
- Don't even remember driving through town
- We don't have the youth
- Economic vibrancy will bring back the youth
- We need work
- Transportation system -must have alternate routes
- We have to sell this community to those hear and those from outside
- Ambassador
- City is complaint driven
- An advantage to giving your property a facelift
- We need to build on this community's diversity
- How can we get the media to also include positive stuff
- Not thriving because we are losing our youth
- Aggressive marketing
- Quality of restaurants -not so good
- One thing will build on another
- Marketing/promotion
- Restore the aesthetics
- Tell folks about what's happening in town

**Group Dialogue Sessions
Round 2 – 8:30 – 9:15 pm**

Topic: Poverty Reduction

Convener: Michelle Colussi

Dialogue Participants:	Keith Wyton	Dawn Onyschtschuk	Terry McFadden
	Barbara Cooper	Penn Thrasher	Leah Fontaine
	Roy Gunter-Smith	Kathy Gunter-Smith	Ann Seigny
	Anne Graboski	Gary Dawson-Quatell	

Note taker: Keith Wyton

Summary of Discussion:

- Poverty not talked about in Port Alberni – denial
- Those in poverty not internally organized
- Lack of free recreation activities
- Entitlement attitude -no recognition that things have changed
- Downloading of service costs
- Service provided to clients where they are
- Revenue for support staff - \$70,000/year
- Housing -second stage -independent supported

- How to engage those in need
- We all should look after each other
- Racism -contributes to marginalization of many
- NIMBY -for any 'social' housing project
- Bum-out -people will burnout if they don't have a stake in the outcome

Topic: Sustainable Resource Use (agriculture, fisheries, industry)
Convener: Kathy Burkosky
Dialogue Participants: Gary Swann Sylvia Springer Barb Stevenson
Note taker: Barb Stevenson

Summary of Discussion:

- Farming and fisheries
- Community Forests -we are not very far with that and how sustainable would they be
- Salmon, water, all connected to forests
- Wendell Berry
- We produce as much as we can as cheaply as we can so we can sell it to someone far way for the highest price.- so people at home stay poor
- Is local food farming sustainable
- Cornerstone to local economy is local agriculture -large scale farming is harmful to the environment, to the human body – all are dependent upon our fossil fuels which are diminishing
- Need to link environment with social issues
- Food security, water security
- Forestry (community) would
- Killing the planet, killing ourselves
- Living a sustainable life will sustain our environment
- Need to organize around managing our community forests
- The resource is here to be self reliant
- There is poverty
- There is expertise -but people need to make an effort
- Farmers Market is always sold out
- Awareness not out there that there are good healthy alternatives available

Topic: Roadways –City planning joining Alberni and Port Alberni
Convener: Craig Duncan
Dialogue Participants: Bernadette Wyton Diana Olson Bonnie Ruttan
 Darlene Coulson Ginny Stephen Don Mallon
 Nicole Milne Sandi Dixon Phil Guild
 Rick Taylor Bridgette Taylor Sylvia Springer
Note taker: Don Mallon; Bonnie Ruttan

Summary of Discussion:

- Only one roadway joining North Port Alberni and South Port
- Poor layout for growth
- Pollution, air quality
- Lack of bike trails and walking trails
- Roger Creek -suspension bridge -beautiful for tourists
- Heavy traffic into town and around town and back out
- Need infrastructure around bridge -develop areas for tourists with large RV to park and shop

- People (tourists) looking for memories
- Prioritize a new plan, look down the road, create better traffic flow, create a unity between North and South Port
- Massive growth in West Coast -we need to capture some of that growth
- Paint Orange Bridge -'"orange'
- Need Third Avenue, 10th Avenue, Maebelle crossings
- Echo Centre – a hub for activity -need better traffic flow
- Where is City Planner -why is he not at this meeting
- Politicians' usual answer is we can't do it!
- Make demands of politicians
- Safety is an issue – only one road joins two parts of town
- Waterfront development critical for development of tourism
- Not easy to get around town
- No direct route from one side of town to the other
- Air quality control – local groups with broad support
- Concern about pollution from vehicular traffic
- Community that are planned well can provide opportunities for healthy lives -walking, cycling, less pollution
- In 50's was passed that bridge would be put through
- Low level bridge connecting to Tebo would allow park development
- A foot bridge across Roger Creek would be an attraction
- Better road systems are needed for expanding population
- Hospital and Alberni Elementary populations are particularly affected by vehicular pollution
- Move past either/or thinking
- Fish hatchery on Roger Creek
- Development around bridge is needed
- Get people to stop -create memories for people
- Car traffic be redirected to lure tourists into town – slow down tourist traffic
- There is no easy way for tourists to navigate city – think about proximity, access, signage, advertising
- We're still looking at Port Alberni and Alberni – same mentality
- Long term planning
- How can we link existing facilities
- There is no big plan
- This the time to developing a good long-term plan -before there is massive population pressure
- Has there been any thought given to the bridge on Somass River -the orange bridge should be orange – it needs a name plaque
- Bridge is a bottleneck
- Tebo/10th Avenue a natural split
- 21st Avenue not suitable for crossing
- challenge – we need to connect things create better access and minimize traffic to reduce pollution
- bypass road behind Bob Daily stadium could alleviate congestion in that area
- emergency services compromised by poorly laid out roads
- medical community wants to come -problem is that they are restricted by VIHA -VIHA needs to release venue control
- Has there ever been a community plan?
- We are always reacting, catching up -there is no plan
- Invite city planner to next meeting -the city should be here. The city has changed since the 21st Avenue plan

- The city plan should originate at this level -grassroots groups
- What is missing is opportunity for input from community members
- There is a segment of community (absentee landlords for example) that don't care about improvement
- Inconsistent planning
- Nice houses with ghetto apartments in the middle
- Other communities have faced same issues and have managed to create positive change
- How can voices be heard by decision makers?
- Do it first and ask for forgiveness later
- There seem to be so many roadblocks to development
- What are the processes that one would go through to initiate good development
- We need a good transportation system in and around Port Albemi
- Lobby city hall
- Determined and focused committee initiatives

Closing

Participants gathered for closing comments. Everyone felt that the evening had been worthwhile. Participants were asked to spread the word and invite others to the upcoming sessions.

Upcoming Sessions:

Monday, October 4th	7:00 – 10:00 pm
Wednesday, October 20th	7:00 – 10:00 pm
Sunday, November 11th	1:30 – 4:30 pm
Wednesday, November 24th	1:30 – 4:30 pm

All sessions will be held in the Cedar Rooms at Echo Centre.

**Albemi Outlook 20/20
Open Space Forum #2 Proceedings
October 4th, 2004**

Participants:

Doug Blake	Ken McRae ..	Bridgette Taylor
Rob Cole	Alanna Miller	Rick Taylor
Frank Graf	Dusty Miller •	Penn Thrasher
Kathy Gunter-Smith	Dave Parsons	Joan Van Schaik
Roy Gunter-Smith	Lyle Price	John Van Schaik
Dea Haminishi	Carol Reynolds	Ken Watson
Michael Hannah	Ann Sevigny	Denis White
Ron Jorgenson	Greg Smyth	David Whitworth
Winston Joseph	Tracy Smyth	Don Wilshare
Jim McManus	Seamus Stevenson	Karen Wilshare

Outlook 20/20 members

Paul Blake	Darrin Olson	Barb Stevenson
Theresa Kingston	Bonnie Ruttan	
Don Mallon	Sylvia Springer	

Opening

Barb Stevenson, Co Chair Albemi Outlook 20/20, welcomed participants and gave a brief history of the formation/history of Albemi Outlook 20/20.

Theresa Kingston reviewed the Open Space process and invited participants to submit agenda items for dialogue.

**Group Dialogue Sessions
Round 1 –7:30 –8:15 pm**

Topic:	Beauty in Port Albemi -Where is it and how do we create it?		
Convener:	Dea Haminishi		
Dialogue Participants:	Alanna Miller	Bonnie Ruttan	David Whitworth
	Don Wilshare	Dusty Miller	
Note taker:	Bonnie Ruttan/Don Wilshare		

Summary of Discussion

- Beauty –a matter of perception; disappointed in the way we've chosen to develop
- It has so much to offer – so many beautiful natural surroundings but we have chosen to 'uglify' it
- We have to de-uglify it!
- There is so much hidden beauty here
- People see the mill, the strip mall -that's what people see on the way to the West Coast
- We don't promote Port Albemi
- The housing prices are still reasonable
- Coming into the valley the first time the view is beautiful
- There are beautiful spots but the overall image isn't as positive

- Is there a different perception amongst people who have grown up here?

- People new to the valley notice paths, greens spaces, forested areas
- Could paths be connected?
- We haven't capitalized on the beauty in the development
- The industrial base is changing – logging, fishing is in a downturn
- We need to attract new businesses
- Look at Parksville, Qualicum -beautiful flower displays, etc.
- If Johnson Road could be developed in a similar manner, what would you do?
- Sculptures in the community -like the new one at the foot of Johnson
- We have many outstanding artists •
- Diverse representation of variety of artists
- Have we ever entered the Cities in Bloom contest?
- Something like that would turn around that "smelly mill town" image
- Make Port Alberni the most outstanding in some area
- Focus on neighbourhoods
- The Jack O'Lanterns at Cathedral Grove are a good example of that
- We are minutes away from the wilderness -we can access so many areas that provide solitude, beauty
- Get newspaper to give a regular spot to photos that show PA's beauty.
- Send photos to CBC
- Show them on the internet
- The wildlife here is easily seen -beautiful
- Some of the houses are vibrant colours -Newfoundland houses are
- Beautify areas -upgrade
- This is already happening as people move into town and buy
- There are a number of houses that are in poor condition because they are rentals – absentee landlords
- Why doesn't this City feel like small European fishing communities
- A walkway along the river
- Interpretive signs along walkways -ask businesses to sponsor a sign
- We want to stop people who drive through to Tofino
- Get a fleet of water taxi – from "Quay to Quay" to transport people
- Why are there no sailboats in the inlet? No sailboards?
- We need to tear down Plywood Mill and make a beach
- Take area behind Swale Rock and build condos up the hill
- Abbeyfield area -provide walkways, benches, gardens
- Have business take on the responsibility of developing a garden, donating a bench
- Corporate sponsored street sculpture
- We need a 'Street of Realistic Possibilities'

- Reputation for beauty here
- Much of what we have doesn't enhance the natural beauty (shopping malls)
- We have much beauty here but are uglifying it -de-uglization is the way to make it more beautiful
- Lots of beauty on the way, but a lot of people don't stop
- Marketing needed -show it off, promote the town
- No pamphlets on the ferry about Port Alberni
- Taking photos -getting them out to the public
- Creeks and green spaces everywhere
- Need more connecting paths
- New mall should left more of the forest

- Parksville and Qualicum (retirement community) have made community pretty to attract more retired people
- People might stop more if they were pleased with the beauty
- Mars Martin a good idea
- City planning department? Planning regulations make things difficult
- Get local artists to sculpt/paint
- Gardeners –City in Blooms competition -we should enter
- Image of Port Alberni is the smell (no longer) of Norske plant
- Capital of the World
- encourage a 'neighbourhood party' week
- solitude is available very close to busy streets
- make PA beautiful - - tum the image around
- Pennyworth -Positive Port -"Beauty of Port Alberni"
- Website
- CBC needs photos
- Photos of beautiful and ugly places
- Wildlife plentiful
- Major arteries need to be cleaned up
- Much housing owned by absentee landlords –reluctant to repair, often unable to sell because of poorly built structure
- Walkways needed along the waterways
- Local business could take ownership, put signs
- Victoria Quay -Harbour Quay water taxis
- Need more sailboards, sailboats on the estuary
- Give bluff above Swale Rock Cafe to a developer
- Let local business pay for local improvements in exchange for advertising
- Street sculpture sponsored by local corporation.

Topic: Positive Aspects of Port Alberni
Convener: Darrin Olson
Dialogue Participants: Jim McManus Rick Taylor Bridgette Taylor
 Tracy Smyth Doug Blake Dave Parsons
 Greg Smyth Don Mallon
Note taker: Don Mallon

Summary of Discussion

- What we have here in Port Alberni is positive -not always looking outside for improving
- Buildings and ? not very nice, but scenery here is beautiful
- Harbour is a valuable asset
- Need to attract more industrial base
- Resources management -how is it controlled
- Location of Port Alberni is a valuable asset for recreation and industry
- Perception of outsiders looking at Port Alberni is that it isn't great, they are wrong!! Gateway to West Coast, hiking, Long Beach
- Should we be marketing Port Alberni better
- Possibly a name change to the Municipality of the Alberni Valley -bring all areas together
- 50% of property owners at Sproat Lake are absentee owners
- recreation major attraction, people moving here because of land prices
- we need balance of industry, business, recreation -we should be marketing ourselves better

- younger age group will bring a new philosophy
- rewrite the future of the valley instead of looking only at Port Albemi
- don't forget First Nations people
- Ten best reasons to visit the Albemi Valley does not include Port Albemi
- The different communities within the Albemi Valley can work together to improve
- Work together -First Nations, Cherry Creek, Beaver Creek
- Resources are here -let's market them together

Topic: Positive Action Community
Convener: Winston Joseph
Dialogue Participants: Frank Graf Karen Wilshire Mike Hannah
 Joan VanSchaik John VanSchaik Rob Cole
 Barb Stevenson
Note taker: Barb Stevenson

Summary of Discussion

- Not positive thinking -positive action
- Everyone has gifts – get each one in the community to share their gifts, goals, passion
- All year round
- We get a lot from community -what can we give back?
- Common goal - would bring people together
- Passionate about Port Albemi -want people to realize how much is here -how great a place it is to live
- We tend to take it for granted -we forget how awesome our valley is
- We have great volunteers –but how do we get more people involved?
- Everyone wants something different -encourage diversity
- Live in other places -really appreciate what is here
- Lot of potential here -too much focus on natural resources -using them up rather than appreciate them
- Good climate -people need to get past foggy weather
- Water -clean water
- Safe community
- Invention for curtainless shower stall
- Get people to be a tourist in their own town
- Non reasonable accommodation on West Coast –could provide some and keep people in town who pass through to West Coast
- Hiking trails to Beaufort -with parking
- Link activities together on map so visitors can easily access things to do
- How do we mobilize people to be more passionately involved
- How do we get people to acknowledge their own gifts
- Accentuate the positive each other
- Feedback to each other –be mentors
- Encourage different ideas -listen to each other
- Our ferry system is second to none in the world -we should appreciate it
- Shutdown fishing for 20 years –lets it restore itself -farm fish for awhile.

Topic: Build a pipeline from Great Central Lake or to the top/bottom of the Hump to "sell" our 'excess' potable water
Convener: Dusty Miller
Dialogue Participants : Sylvia Springer Ken Watson Lyle Price

Cathy Reynolds

Note taker:

Sylvia Springer

Summary of Discussion :

- Building line from Great Central to Port Alberni – sell water -money comes back to Port Alberni
- Delivery costly -long term source
- What path to take over the mountain or through
- Great Central not high enough to serve Qualicum/Parksville
- It is viable for our area but not for Qualicum/Parksville
- There is a study at City Hall for anyone who wants to see it
- The conclusion at this time – is only viable for the Port Alberni area

Topic:

Improving and advertising the college to draw younger people to Port Alberni

Convener:

Seamus Stevenson

Dialogue Participants :

Roy Gunter-Smith

Kathy Gunter-Smith

Anne Sevigny

Ron Jorgenson

Ken McRae

Penn Thrasher

Paul Blake

Denis White

Note taker:

Paul Blake/Roy Gunter-Smith/Dusty Miller

Summary of Discussion:

Broadband

- Jobs -Coulson Aviation leaders
- Cheaper housing
- Cheaper fees
- Pull everything together
- Appointed people not reporting to Mayor
- Bamfield Marine Station an asset
- Attract people to the area
- ?to assist –high school not motivated
- minimum wage -
- high tech hardware and software -no capacity in phone lines
- start advertising college -lifestyle in valley
- UVic in town -cable station – 10 people
- Offer something unique
- What can we offer youth for future career/jobs and education?
- Many people go and return to work here -why do they have to leave for education. Have excellent education staff
- Use technology to expand NIC offerings
- Reps to NIC/community do not sell college or report back to Council
- Leverage existing business -Coulsons
- Leverage community to draw students/business
- Communication between NIC/Education and business
- Focus on areas of expertise -ie heavy industry
- Students go to facilities for courses that interest them/living expenses
- PA -wide variety of resource based industry
- Partnership between college/education, business and community
- Transparency in education reps and community
- How do we get existing information out?
- Co-op courses
- College resources can we have with minimal resources

- Mix and match lifestyle and education
- Look at alternative education institutions
- Unique offerings to draw in new education partners
- NIC advisory committee not fulfilling intermediary role
- Training positions are filled locally shutting out local business
- Educated and qualified workforce draws in new business technologies
- Lets have more trained and better qualified educators that know how to teach

Group Dialogue Sessions

Round 2 – 8:30 – 9:15 pm

Topic:	Positive Balanced Tourism -the water and Port Alberni as a 'Gateway to Barkley Sound'		
Convener:	David Whitworth		
Dialogue Participants:	Denis White	Doug Blake	Winston Joseph
	Ron Jorgenson	Bridgette Taylor	Rick Taylor
	Roy Gunter-Smith	Kathy Gunter-Smith	Bonnie Ruttan
Note taker:	Bonnie Ruttan/Roy Gunter - Smith		

Summary of Discussion

- People (young retirees, etc.) are moving into town who have years of active living ahead
- If we don't plan now, Barkley Sound will look like a huge fish farm
- There is no facility locally to haul a large boat out of the water – not place to haul a boat out to paint hull
- There is not enough marina space. There's a waiting list for marina space -the private sector should come in and develop
- Plywood Mill – covenant -can't sleep overnight. It could be a marina.
- The marina was slow to fill –How big should we build?
- Plywood site -could boats moor overnight? Yes, the covenant applies to land only.
- There are yearly marine guides that could feature the inlet.
- One of the good things about Port is access to the West Coast
- We lack publicity and promotion
- People in Barkley Sound would come to a classy marina for a good bottle of wine, etc. but we don't offer that at the waterfront.
- On the other side of Vancouver Island there are lots of marinas and good places to stop
- If you come up from Victoria to Bamfield, there are no sheltered spots in the event of a storm
- There are a few hundred boats in the Barkley Sound
- Guides and rental facilities in Port Alberni are not visible
- There is a market for it but it's not visible here
- There are things that can be done in a few hours -harbour tours, fishing trip, kayak lesson/guided tour, water taxi (Quay to Quay), sunset dinner tour was incredible
- Waterfront masterplan -walkway along the waterfront, boat tours
- You have to be well qualified to be a captain – even in a small boat
- McLean Mill is wonderful – create a working harbour that is geared to tourism
- Interesting plans -harbour development is being discussed
- There is a funding issues -a lot of good plans have been put on hold because of funding
- If people knew about these plans, there would be interest in the development plans for the future of the harbour
- It is a frustrating process -it's hard to maintain public interest when it takes so long to develop

- Many working groups/committees -cruise ship committee, tall ships committee, etc. -hard to maintain public interest in development
- Community Futures is one group that actually do things because it is independent funding
- There is a shortage of housing -no new housing; no refurbished housing
- Newcomers often want a finished product in terms of housing
- Do we want to be just a retirement community? We need a mix of people
- There are people coming to Port Alberni (young retirees) who will start businesses, etc.
- We are seeing a population growth -we want a balanced community
- People coming here need housing
- The college will play a key role in development of a balanced community
- It's hard to build on spec. -not enough demand
- There's a lot here for people who move here -recreation, quiet community
- There has to be industrial base -high tech industry/state of the art facilities are needed
- Computer production, or whatever
- We want a clean industry that is environmentally friendly
- Why not boat building -but not ferries!
- This could be the community that is the centre
- At Norske mill -machines will need to be upgraded
- One of the mills has upgraded and will be viable longer than other mills as a result
- We talked about smelter briefly but is there really and large employer industry that we can realistically expect to come here
- As least in the short term, diversified development is our best option
- Balance marine tourism with ecological considerations
- Local facilities not up to 'standards' (sail boats cannot be serviced here)
- Lack of marine space, especially over 27'
- Some businesses looking at marinas and facilities
- No restrictions stopping new facilities
- PA does not have visible charters and facilities to draw in marine tourists
- Classy marina needed to draw tourists
- Why do people go to the east side of the Island rather than the west
- West Coast is more exposed to weather, etc
- In the past there have been boats for hire and guides
- Harbour Tours of history
- Tours of real working industry
- Waterfront plans are in development
- Port Authority looking for funding for plans
- Port Authority doesn't communicate projects early because it deflates enthusiasm
- Cruise committee is active
- Many committees working
- Where are we going Port Alberni and recreation –should we be a retirement community?
- What will attract people here to encourage growth -on part is educational
- Industry is required to support community

Topic: Squamish, Revelstoke, Canmore –Is it going to happen here?
Convener: Dave Parsons
Dialogue Participants: Rob Cole Frank Graf Ken McRae
 Dusty Miller Lyle Price Don Mallon
 Paul Blake

Note taker: Don Mallon/Paul Blake

Summary of Discussion

- Alberni Valley is beautiful -includes Barclay Sound, West Coast, mountain biking, etc.
- Population is going to grow in valley, because of what we have here, young people will be coming because of what we have, old people will want to retire here
- Do we have a plan to deal with increase in population
- If industry were to shut down tomorrow, we would hurt for awhile, but we will survive because of what we have to offer
- Can we market ourselves as a retirement community?
- Do the little things first in our own community and people will notice and want to be here
- The waterfront is the focal point of the community
- Link the water areas –i.e. Victoria Quay -Harbour Quay
- Revitalize south port -uptown -deal with absentee landlords
- Real estate potential in Port Alberni -property values still cheap
- Cordelaine (sp) Idaho, Squamish, - best thing for the place to have mills die -short term pain long term gain -Tumbler Ridge is booming
- Moderate by bringing people in -retirement
- Encourage other methods of sustaining
- Use and love our community to entice people
- Be ready
- A walk along the waterfront
- Trails
- Nanaimo waterfront -improved the whole town
- Tax deals for a better house
- The place has value beyond tax breaks
- Incentives often penalize the consistent employers
- Kelowna -no free parking -nickel and dime
- Water walkway planned in the past
- Conflict in Cathedral Grove -values conflict
- Road to build to highway
- Growth is coming
- People want to be here
- Revitalize downtown south Port
- Money from government
- Big boom or controlled expansion
- Fish farms

Topic: What contributes to Healthy Families ... particularly around changes in parent's responses to youth

Convener: Alanna Miller

Dialogue Participants: Dea Haminishi Penn Thrasher Michael Hannah

Note taker:

Summary of Discussion

Concern for teens and parenting –acceptance of alcohol and drugs, sex

- Child exploitation
- Lack of legislation –we can take a? -terrified to expel from home
- Difficult for parents to get a handle

- Apathy and fear -keep as close as I can or might not have any relationship
- Little help from outside agencies and legislation
- Allowance of \$30.00 -where does it go
- Young People -more for them to do
- Nights Alive-one night –expand
- More places for involvement -mentor involvement
- 12-18-no organized program.ming ..
- nothing for kids without funds
- strong volunteer component '.
- do we need to have all legal/liability checks, etc. -holding us back
- lots people have skills that they would share
- follow ? who don't have parents -how do they do that
- concern about going ahead but keeping it safe
- stories of people in the community
- connections are asset building
- importance of adults having an interest
- where did the change happen between younger children and teens
- no gathering place (e.g. where do 20+ go if you are not drinking-Campbell River-24 hr-Smitty's)
- PADACS -no alcohol dances -all generations
- Community cut up -not a place to hang
- Albemi Valley Enhancement Society –about 70 people –attracts people of all ages
- Mountain biking?
- Possibly look at what works
- Where do generations 'mix'?
- How can we have conversations with parents around "How they feel about what's going on"
- Mike Ruttan –doing away with 3 week suspension –if alcohol on grounds. Further marginalized –instead in class suspension. Also come on Saturday -community work/education
- VAST -no one needs to be out of school
- Early intervention around anger
- Wrong kids get punished -working really hard at EJ Dunn to create a more positive environment
- Create safe spaces
- Should be able to still spank kids
- Young people need to leave and come back so they appreciate it –come back serene and peaceful
- Make staying in school attractive e.g. working on farm, fishing, etc. – see value of staying in school
- Walk around Maori community
- Katimivik –see something out -Canadian –3rd largest footprints
- What creates the difference between Western Europe and here? Respect? For society for everything?
- Concern about absent parents
- Has to better ways to structure -common sense that they can relate to
- Huge concerns about media influences -technology/high consumerism
- Need for some kids to have to really learn to work –and have some sense of discipline. Relationship between work -earning as opposed to entitlement
- Comes out of discussion with friends of teenagers –majority of families are not prepared to take strong stands
- Going to drink anyways -buy them alcohol
- Having sex-saferto have at home
- As early childhood educator -apathy in parents
- Penn is doing research on sexual exploitation of children

- Age of majority is now 14 years
- Parents don't have support in legislation to back up parenting choices
- Parents wanting to keep connection to children and not setting firm boundaries
- Very scary out there
- Keeping PA healthy -healthy kids equals healthy community
- Somewhere to go and keep occupied –scouting, cadets, ventures, big brothers & sisters, fishing, mountain trips, mentoring
- No programming after age of 12- 18
- Nights Alive is good but only one night a week •.
- Nol a lot for kids who can't afford fees or doesn't like organized sport
- Alcohol
- Professional doesn't mean it's the right thing for the job
- Asset building -connecting between youth and older people
- Elderly people afraid to go out after dark -afraid of teenagers
- How do we break down barriers between generations?
- Get good parents out to parenting groups
- How to connect to others
- All the kids were good when they were little kids –what happened
- Wal Mart -where is the place to gather; big sheltered area in Victoria together; there are not a lot of places to gather without alcohol -lit, open at night, not have to continually spend money -Plaza in Mexico
- PACACSS put on sober dances -they were packed, all ages
- Alberni Valley Salmon Enhancement Society -members from 16–60 years
- Mountain biking, dirt biking, car racing
- Where are the places generations come together?
- Parents feel alone with the struggle to be strong, firm parents
- Parents should be able to spank kids when they do something wrong
- Kids need to leave and come back to Port -to calm, serene, small town

Topic: What 'community' are you talking about here? Which should we be taking about?

Convener: Jim McManus

Dialogue Participants: Ken Watson Sylvia Springer Barb Stevenson
Seamus Stevenson Anne Sevigney

Note taker: Barb Stevenson

Summary of Discussion

- Community usually means Alberni Valley and not the rest of regional district
- 3 other communities get lost re: planning, discussion
- Sproat Lake, Beaver Creek, Cherry Creek, Beaufort, Hupacasath, Tseshahat
- A lot of provincial issues get laid on us without consultation with community
- Inclusion seems self evident
- Electoral areas can be drawn into funding project don't choose
- Need a partnership with areas outside the city. Sproat has asked Hupacasath and Tseshahat to sit around table -they must be included in any grouping of entire valley
- People interchange terms "Albemi Valley" and "Port Alberni"
- Must find away to gather people together from all 'communities' in Albemi Valley to insure inclusion of their issues
- Must be included as 'community'

- Use "Port Alberni" to be city. "Alberni Valley" to be all inclusive of smaller communities in this valley
- What about Bamfield and Kildonan? More dependent upon connection to rest of Alberni Valley than Tofino or Ucluelet – should be included as well in "Alberni Valley"
- Bamfield has world class marine station -strong links to NIC -important part of our 'community'
- Visitors marvel at community 'feel'
- It's the people and the natural environment that makes us unique
- Need to find common ground for everyone in Alberni Valley
- Unless everyone is rowing in the same boat in the same direction at the same time, we won't get anywhere
- Wealth talent, resources to build something magnificent (viable, successful) out of this valley
- Passion needs a sense of reality and pragmatism to be production
- Common denominator in sessions (Open Space) so far –sincere concern for preserving our Alberni Valley.

Topic: Establish Port Alberni as a retirement community
Convener: Dusty Miller
Dialogue Participants:
Note taker:
Summary of Discussion:
Group did not meet

**Alberni Outlook 20/20
Open Space Forum #3 Proceedings
October 20th, 2004**

Participants

Rick Avis	Karen George	Terry McFadden
Barb Baker	Judy Gortan	Gail Morton
Anna Berry	Robert Gunn	ShannyNadudvary
CathyBurkosky	Dea Haminishi	Dave Parsons
Judy Carlson	Richard Hartigan	Matias Plathhoff
Rob Cole	Nick Harris	Jan Taylor
Michelle Colussi	Blake Johnson	Florentia Scott
Craig Duncan	Ron Lepine	Ken Watson
Kevin Floyd	John Mayba	
Brooke George	Myrna McFadden	

Outlook 20/20 Members

Theresa Kingston	Bonnie Ruttan	Barb Stevenson
Neil Malbon	Sylvia Springer	Gary Swann

Opening

Barb Stevenson, Co Chair Alberni Outlook 20/20, welcomed participants and gave a brief history of the formation/history of Alberni Outlook 20/20.

Theresa Kingston reviewed the Open Space process and invited participants to submit agenda items for dialogue.

**Group Dialogue Sessions
Round 1 –7:30 –8:15 pm**

Topic:	Bridging Ethnicity and Opportunity		
Convener:	Kevin Floyd		
Dialogue Participants:	Dave Parsons	Michelle Colussi	Bonnie Ruttan
	Nick Harris		
Note taker:	Dave Parsons/Bonnie Ruttan		

Summary of Discussion:

- Squamish has a program in the college that helps develop Aboriginal businesses related to recreation
- Land claims unresolved leave inhibitors to development - cultural sites, etc.
- Time to resolve -takes time
- Olympics planning to promote First Nations as a piece of the whole
- Does wealth flow through here like it does to Whistler
- Opportunities i.e. Grouse Mountain has First Nations interpretive centre
- Europeans very interested in First Nations
- Partnerships
- What's getting in the way -treaties, fear of land becoming First Nations
- Locally have interpretive centre, hydro project. Eco-Trust in the Clayoquot. Eco-Trust has loans for environmental projects -big supporter of Tofino -Tim Wis, Kayak company
- Why are there no First Nations but one a this planning
- No youth either
- What can the community do to promote diversity

- Eagle Rock
- Judith Sayers -good example
- Up to the bands? Some not participating -xenophobia from both sides
- Do First Nations get support only if white community can make some coin at the end
- Racisms -no money is dealing with it
- Angry town like Prince George, Terrace. Port Alberni is the worst on the Island
- Start with youth -solve it before adulthood
- Friendship Centre
- Strong policies against racism
- Dealt with via education
- Parents creating atmosphere
- Tourism and Recreation opportunities if we can take advantage of it
- Young people are the key
- Council wants youth input
- Youth will generally want to leave town
- Exchange programs to cultivate directions
- Bridging with the Band, Elders at Elder college
- Circles and discussion
- First Nations craft programs from Elders to others
- Artists
- Several communities blended to create a whole program of crafts and arts
- Cho-lava brought in Dragon boat races
- Squamish totem hall had teen and preteen dances to mingle the kids (regular dances). Open to the community and well advertised. Buss to help move kids
- This process could move on to other things.
- The cost of housing in Port Alberni does not compare with Squamish
- There is year round recreation here
- In the future this will be as big an opportunity in Port Alberni as Whistler
- First Nations partnerships in Squamish have led to a number of good development opportunities
- What's getting in the way here?
- Land claims not being settled is getting the way here
- We have good examples of partnerships here with First Nations
- There has been a lot of development in Tofino (NTC Economic Development)
- What leads to development here?
- Looking at the people at this meeting -not many First Nations people, no youth, the average age is over 40
- If we discuss the future without youth are we missing something?
- Why is there not more bridging, more joint ventures between First Nations and the larger community
- There are divisions caused by racism. There is racism here. It gets in the way of development
- Port Alberni is known as a red-neck community
- What is the level of education? There is anger here. Terrace and Prince George are like that.
- Education of youth can help to change that.
- Friendship Centre and schools can help with that
- In some schools racism is not tolerated. When fights break out it is dealt with
- It starts before kids go to school. They hear it from their parents
- There are huge opportunities for First Nations and for the whole community -interpretive centre
- Young people tend not to be interested in future –more of a focus on now

- How can we bridge the gap? How do we change perceptions and eliminate racial barriers that develop as kids get older?
- Getting groups to talk together and start the dialogue
- There are pottery classes here but ar there program for Elders
- Teaching hands on crafts from different communities -sea grass weaving, etc.
- The Chokwa people have brought a boat into Dragon boat race
- Squamish Totem Hall –dances are held for preteens and teens. Everyone comes. It's open to the whole community. Busses bring kids in from different areas.
- It's hoped that as part of this process interest will led to action -a group could organize teen dances.

Topic: Change for the Better
Convener: Shanny Nadudvary
Dialogue Participants: Sylvia Springer Richard Hartigan
Note taker: Sylvia Springer

Summary of Discussion:

- Change for the better
- Room for improvement
- Do things better, find a better way
- More passion and energy
- Diversify, creative
- New technology manufacturing
- Network of people to implement
- Workmarket -tap into
- Quality products for export
- Networking
- Team building, overcome our limitations
- Publishing business
- Team of people to work in the writing area

Topic: Environmental Sustainability
Convener: John Mayba
Dialogue Participants: Dea Haminishi Jan Taylor Terry McFadden
 Barbara Baker Gary Swann Judy Gortan
 Kathy Burkosky Gail Morton
Note taker: ?

Summary of Discussion:

- Our planet is in crisis
- Much to be done here in next 16 years to take care of our own home -here and now
- Crucial things -quality of water in Sproat Lake; air quality -we learn constantly how much we continue to pollute
- Garbage -batteries -(? Now do not dispose of used batteries -just make less toxic) -landfill heavily used
- Recycling? Where is it? 8 years ago moved here and surprised at no recycling process for everyone; 8 years later –no improvement. Recycled garbage goes to landfill instead of out to
- Private contractor recycles -should confirm that they do recycle
- Link between economic development/tourism and the environment
- Global problems affecting all of us

- Think globally, act locally
- Choices that affects global warming -buy locally
- The image of Port Alberni –tied into envirommental awareness; known as 'dirty town' yet we have clean up 'mill' air; reputation affects who comes here and how they treat it
- Port Alberni is a beautiful enviromment –if we believe that we may take more care in preserving it (e.g. Vancouver is ugly city in beautiful location)
- Is it about community pride? People taking care of ifilvate property
- Story about failure ofrecycling makes people give up on the process and don't support it
- Logging roads used as garbage dumps –how much of this goes on? Increased since dump fees went up
- Decision to refuse co-gen plant gives hope to people that things will improve
- Port Alberni always seen as industrial town -"mill town" "place you drive through to get to Long Beach"
- Why couldn't we change image of Port Alberni -renewable energy? (green technology?); why can't we promote economic development that is green.
- Need to make commitment to use technology to make us a green/growing economy
- Provide lovely view coming into town -wrecking yard is an eyesore coming into town
- Lady Rose/MacLean Mill Train ride
- We have soup kitchen but _no coming gardens so people can grow their own
- Fast food places contribute to waste
- Does city have any say over what businesses go in on Johnson Road?
- When lots (like mall site) are cleared are people invited to come in and take away plants? Done in VancouverNictoria – garden club here could help with us
- Natural Step Framework workshop on Friday
- Take our present aversion to second hand smoke and use that technique to change other harmful habits/patterns
- Whatever we do, we can't give up
- Large retire population here with time on their hands who aren't feeling useful! Show them what could be done to promote clean enviromnents .

Topic: Community Forests -Why? Where?
Convener: Ken Watson
Dialogue Participants: Neil Malbon Craig Duncan Robert Gunn
 Ron Lepine Gary Swann Karen George
 Anna Berry Brooke George Matias Platthoff
 Cathy Burkosky
Note taker: ?/Neil Malbon

- Summary of Discussion:**
- Review of Ministry of Forests announcement
 - Location, business plan, community consultation
 - Location –control of land –Sproat Lake, community water shed, McLean Mill, possible trade for private lands, OK to log around Sproat Lake
 - Stumpage - full stumpage, pay rent on what do not cut
 - How about planting trees
 - Local manufacturing
 - Small mills only interested in cedar wood
 - No local mills that would be interested in second growth Douglas Fir
 - End use of product -need to create/stimulate local economy

- Partnerships with others -First Nations
- Why do we want a community forest
- Talk with existing manufacturers
- Will not make a lot of money
- Make sure resource is available locally
- Watershed -China Creek
- Look at areas which are close to the community
- Have control
- Choice of contractors - Weyerhaeuser
- Areas with recreational opportunities and other N.F.F.P.
- Certification?
- Good idea for City to pursue
- How big is the area (hectares)?
- One area versus a number of smaller ones
- Community Forest Association is producing a guide book
- M. of F. has invited Port Alberni to apply for a community forest license
- Application document -location to be specified -must be in the TFL; offer a business plan; comprehensive bidding process including all stakeholders
- Less than 22,000M – sustainable allowable cut= approximately 5000 hectares
- Local input could do more than outsiders to protect our assets in the area
- Problem -private lands (community watershed or near McLean's Mill)
- Sproat Lake area suggested – visible logging nothing to be ashamed of
- Could the community be responsible for stumpage if area not logged? No but responsible paying rent on all areas
- Other examples of Community Forests? Revelstoke (much bigger) Cowichan not a comparable scenario
- Where is the market for logs? Locally? Try to obtain the best price for return
- Look at partnerships with First Nations – e.g. combining the allotments
- Need to look at why we are doing it (what product do we need) -then select a location accordingly (close to PA if possible)
- This project will not be a big money maker but it brings the resource to the local economy and allows more local control
- Limited period of time for the application process (120 days) but can be extended
- Should there be certification -No? -Very difficult process
- Responsibility and control of non-timber resources (e.g. salal, mushrooms, other plants)

Topic: Identifying recreation assets that are underutilized or undervalued for local use and for tourism

Convener: Blake Johnson

Dialogue Participants: Judy Carlson Myrna McFadden Florentia Scott
Rick Avis Rob Cole

Note taker: ?

Summary of Discussion:

- Strathcona's Parks trails in Courtenay -not as good as the Alberni Valley
- Bicycling -mountain bike trails, log train trail
- Hiking -accessibility is amazing
- Trails need connectivity
- Stands of old growth

- Lots of hikers who know the terrain
- Do not want exploitation
- Connect to other world class trails - West Coast Trail, Tofino
- Don't wait for big money – get small business to develop
- Need a recreation centre -i.e. Canmore Nordic Centre
- Need structure
- Identify trail network -loop around town, waterways, mountains, caves, snowshoeing
- stuff for kids -family oriented
- Integrated outdoor plan "
- Year round walking -trials -under canopy of trees
- Visuals -better signage
- Equestrian opportunities
- Climbing routes

**Group Dialogue Sessions
Round 2 – 8:30 – 9:15 pm**

Topic: Preparing for the Future, how do we emulate the successes of other post industry towns such as Squamish, Canmore

Convener: Kevin Floyd

Dialogue Participants: Gail Morton Shanny Nadudvary Bonnie Ruttan
 Gary Swann John Mayba Matias Plathoff
 Terry McFadden Myrna McFadden Craig Duncan

Note taker: Bonnie Ruttan

Summary f Discussion:

- What did Squamish do?
- Squamish has a great location -partnerships with First Nations
- Pushing ecotourism, large windsurfing competitions, college there has expanded
- Here China Creek, Nitinat have good conditions for wind surfing, etc.
- We are a world class mountain biking area
- Did the communities such as Canmore, Kamloops, plan for development? What did they do? How did they avoid strip mall development?
- Strip mall development is not necessarily the end of the road
- Golden has a lot of development
- Here we have a shortage of people between 20 and 40.
- That is the age group that will take risks and develop
- We need to encourage 20-40 year olds to come here. They can afford to live here, to raise their kids here
- Revelstoke turned their situation around by developing from a grassroots level
- Planning is key for any good quality development
- Look at the difference between Qualicum and Parksville -planning
- How do we get from the planning stage to the development stage?
- We have leaders within this group -people with good ideas
- We need friends on City Council
- We need to shift our perception of ourselves -industrial community
- In the future there will be more development of tourism and retirement
- Locally we have baby boomer retirement boom that is starting to happen

- What about 20 years from now
- Here we are in the middle of a rich resource – it should continue to be a source of income
- We now have many people who work here and live on the other side -they keep the jobs but don't pay for their cars or food here
- Port Alberni used to be bigger than Nanaimo
- A lot of people moved away because of pollution here
- The level of pollution is lower but the perception hasn't changed
- We have seen ourselves as an industrial town so we haven't been concerned about attractive development
- We're one of the last industrial towns that hasn't take advantage of the possibilities in other areas
- Tofino, Ucluelet have capitalized on their environment
- Why don't we celebrate and promote what we've got? We have rainforest, Lady Rose, Cathedral Grove, etc.
- Sproat Lake, an official plan is in the offing -people there are saying "We don't want large scale development"
- We have to think about the issues
- Are we ready as a community to get ready to get organized?
- What is our vision?
- What do we want in the future?
- In Canmore, Bamfield, Tofino -the original residents have been squeezed out
- Great Central Lake is going the same way
- We have to take control, people are coming – we have to have a plan -change is coming
- Is there a real estate dealer here?
- The changes are happening quickly
- The boomer retirement group will retire here in the west because the rest of the country is too cold, the winter is too long
- Quality of care etc. will be an issue here in 20 years
- Our community won't be helped by people who will live here in the summer and in the south in the winter
- We could do a lot with plants and trees here
- Trees lining streets that are evenly spaced
- We need to begin with the 20-40 year olds who will build infrastructure
- Then we will be ready for the boomer retirees
- There will be conflict here as there was in Squamish about how development will occur
- We have two forces – granola vs. industry
- Electing people to city council can change things
- As the population changes, the values will change
- New people will come to raise kids
- When this community unites it can do great things e.g. hospital, arena
- With common focus and goals we can achieve a lot
- There is a conflict here between political groups (Alberni and Port Alberni still manifests itself)
- We need to unite to achieve objectives
- In the official community plan trails are highlighted, valued
- In reality, the maintenance of log train trail has become an issue in terms of responsibility/maintenance
- What could be an issue around which the community could unite
- A common vision coming from the grassroots is needed
- A community vision needs to be developed

- How did 200 people become concerned enough to come to Echo Centre to express concerns about direction of planning for Sproat Lake?
- People felt threatened. They acted.
- It was the same when people in the 100's came to protest Hydro's plan to build a gas plant here.
- We need sustainable living here in the future

Topic: Developing hiking trails in/around Port Alberni
Convener: Ron Lepine
Dialogue Participants: Dea Haminishi Judy Carlson Richard Hartigan
 Karen George Rick Avis Barbara Baker
 Florencia Scott
Note taker: ??

Summary of Discussion:

- Example of Campbell River
- Need mapping/marketing
- Della Falls trail used to be promoted
- No good trail information at Tourist Info Centre -need single sheet information
- Nanaimo - \$35,000 to develop a trail and recreation plan
- Consultant to host trail plan seminar approximately \$3,000
- Rank trails for preservation
- Need family activities when men fishing
- Inquiries for rock climbing
- Loss of access -need to identify needs
- Funding for CNR trail from Port Authority?
- Trails on Somass Estuary
- Need Weyerhaeuser's help to maintain roads to alpine areas
- Marking trails -Log Train trail
- At one time Della Falls
- International market to be tapped
- Need the maps/descriptions to give to tourists
- Need to train staff to disseminate the information at the tourist bureau
- \$3,000 for a consultant to bring parties together to develop a coherent plan for local trails
- can prioritize certain trails to determine logging
- funding

Topic: The future of the rail right-of-way
Convener: Robert Gunn
Dialogue Participants: Brooke George Ken Watson Barb Baker
 Barbara Stevenson
Note taker: Barbara Stevenson

Summary of Discussion:

- CPR sold land/own timber
- Rails have changed -right of way moves with it
- Rail America just bought Port Alberni to Parksville
- CPR owns rails ways -Parksville -South
- What not have rail buses to move people?
- Canadian taxpayer paid for railway -now CP Rail says they have done it all

- Corridor Society (Non profit) – 5 Regional Districts and 5 First Nations -run railroad on it (no taxes); should run railway North to South; could run bicycles on rail – rail bikes; could take ride to Parksville (max 2% grade)
- Charges for rail maintenance – huge cost – if railways were community owned would be great savings
- Alberni to Parksville – could be used -need repair work but could take light traffic (rail buses)
- Offshore work will eventually come to Port Alberni

Topic:	2010 Olympics	"	
Convener:	Neil Malbon		
Dialogue Participants:	Florencia Scott	Rob Cole	Dave Parsons
Note taker:	Dave Parsons		

Summary of Discussion:

- Opportunity
- Promotion of Port Alberni - who we really are
- How do we get on the band wagon
- How do we want to be seen
- Start positioning ourselves
- Avoid the last minute unclear picture
- Recreation web sites to let people know now
- Take advantage of international attention
- Tourism package - McLean Mill, Log Train
- Regional packages – overview of area
- Hard town to figure out - not map
- Real information centre at the new mall
- Chamber of Commerce could do promotion and cover bookings
- Do we arrange our own local celebration
- Are sculpture contest – to build a Boulevard of Art up the centre of Argyle Street -to shade and break up heat and glare in the summer
- Lure people up into commercial sector
- Waterfront development - we need a walkway
- Stir the sense of beauty to have people stir more beauty
- Kamloops and Salmon Arm have created waterfronts for people and industry moved into less obvious places
- "It's a great thing to encourage people to come here, but we have to have a product"
- we are invested in having a depressed town
- Big enough and yet small enough...

**Alberni Outlook 20/20
Open Space Forum #4 Proceedings
November 7th, 2004**

Participants

Derek Appleton	Gail Morton	Ann Seigny
Pamela Day	Shanny Nadudvary	David Whiltshire
Dave Jarritt	Karen Oldenwald	
David Morton	Mathias Platthoff	

Outlook 20/20 Members

Theresa Kingston	Darrin Olsen	Sylvia Springer
Neil Malbon	Bonnie Ruttan	Gary Swann

Opening

Theresa Kingston welcomed participants and gave a brief history of the formation/history of Alberni Outlook 20/20.

Theresa Kingston reviewed the Open Space process and invited participants to submit agenda items for dialogue.

Group Dialogue Sessions

Round 1 – 1:45 – 2:30 pm

Topic:	2020 -What do we look like? (How do we get there?)		
Convener:	David Whitworth		
Dialogue Participants:	Derek Appleton	Garry Swann	Gail Morton
	Mathias Platthoff	Shanny Nadudvary	
Note taker:	Gail Morton		

Summary of Discussion:

- Purpose -to look at long term -visualize kind of community we will have?
- More or less people in 20 years?
- Global warming and environment - government regulations?
- Our population will be older.
- Will we be more multi-racial?
- Might we become a retirement community?
- Sproat lake trend -older people
- Increase in population visualized with proper planning of the community
- Environment may be destroyed without planning
- Suggested framework -"Natural Step" -go to Google
- Ecological Footprint -what impact are we having on the world? (Cod fishery example)
- 2024 we will be educated due to natural step and implement it for future sustainability
- Conditions which must be satisfied as part of Natural Step: Substances created by society have negative impact; can't over harvest; need to be able to use resources
- Need to determine what first step will be -Sweden, Whistler, Canmore, Seattle, etc. are using the above
- Food system will be local and organic
- Remember back 20 years -people weren't thinking as they are now
- Whistler and Natural Step framework -but demographics are different at Whistler

- Can't teach an old dog new trick -the older generation doesn't want to change
- Now the Premier is thinking about taking junk food out of schools –20 years ago this wasn't happening
- Today we know more but are overwhelmed by it
- Used to considered weird to recycle garbage
- Genetically modified food -do we know its long term effects
- Too late? Is it possible that in 20 years the average person will be eating healthier?
- The root of the problem is money
- Sometimes there are other obstacles inside oneself ,
- So, how do you explain big corporations attending Natural Step? (If the outlook is supposedly negative)
- Corporations may appear to be doing one thing while doing another
- Demand for organic food increasing
- First and foremost we need education
- China has good ideas
- Education –developed by oncologist in Sweden -Natural Step Day –every child gets education
- More fruits and flowers are needed in the valley
- We have a local winery
- Put more resources into education
- Teachers' Professional Day in February on Natural Step
- What about corporate involvement here in 20 years?
- Corporate and rural interests conflicting (no agreement in sight) because we are allowing some (corporations) in we will get more
- Rural school closures an atrocity
- This valley doesn't grow because funding for rural areas is squashed by central governments
- What could happen if Norske moved out?
- Sproat Lake needs to become its own municipality or it will 'go under'
- Sproat Lake, if incorporated could ?
- Vacation and tourism future of Albemi Valley
- The city is the problem –does not understand issues at Sproat Lake
- Community Forest status?
- All municipalities make their money from the rural areas
- 20 years from now what could be done differently to protect what we are going to lose?

Topic: How do we market the Albemi Valley for it to be sustainable?
Convener: Darren Olsen
Dialogue Participants: Gail Morton Sylvia Springer Bonnie Ruttan
 Shanny Nadudvary Karen Oldenwald
Note taker: Bonnie Ruttan

Summary of Discussion:

- How do we market?
- We can't reach everyone
- Target the groups that are most realistic
- Look at demographics
- Why would people come here? What would we market?
- We have to shift from what happened in the past
- Even now things are happening to develop the community

- You need a hook. What can we offer that no one else offers?
- What is there? Trails, mountain biking, deep sea port (diving, industry, tourism), fishing (opportunities for people from other places), Cathedral Grove
- What can we do to appeal to people at the basic level?
- The facilities here are excellent – multiplex for example
- We need to brighten up main streets – lights, etc. to brighten streets on dark days
- There are lots of people who go to the west coast
- They drive through Port but don't stop here
- Nanaimo has shopping -Port Albemi – gambling (?) something that people can spend money on
- We have artists -market our artisan community
- Promote Albemi artists
- There is no night life here
- We could produce more variety – hiking during daytime; gambling during the evening
- We sell vitamins here
- Farmer's market, Harbour Quay
- Look at east and west coast resorts
- We have lodges here
- Fishing last about six months here
- We have diversity here – old, young, tourist, residential
- We need better signage to direct people to Harbour Quay
- There was talk a few years ago about creating brochures to put on the ferries
- We need a theme
- The people who live outside the city don't always feel included when Port Albemi is referred to
- We need to refer to the Albemi Valley
- There are communities who market themselves as sustainable
- The college is under utilized
- Run courses on sustainability
- Themes -history of Valley, cultural, industrial heritage, City with a Heart
- We could market the industrial heritage -expand on McLean's Mill
- More stops along the McLean Mill route
- We have cruise ships coming
- We need offer a lot for them to do -Cathedral Grove, McLean Mill
- In Canmore the future development was based on a theme of sustainability -Natural Step
- We are the City with a Heart – can we market that
- There is a spirit of volunteerism
- If we want to attract people we have to brand our community
- We can expand and bring together our artistic community
- We have the car races, salmon derby, go cart races
- There are people from all over the world who know about the Lady Rose
- Train buffs travel all over to ride the trains
- In the paper there was a list of 100 things to do
- Call it the Alberni Valley
- We have some development currently that is cooperative between First Nations and city with the walkway that has been started
- We can promote heritage of both cultures
- There are elders here teaching language and this will promote heritage development
- There were tours at Sproat Lake given by First Nations
- Educational tours given by First Nations

- Cultural development needs to be encouraged
- There's a lot of talent here – you can see it at the Farmer's market
- How can we promote artists locally?
- Why are some better known in Europe than they are here?
- We can borrow ideas from communities who are making things happen
- People from elsewhere want to learn about local people – local history
- People want a list of small things that they can do to promote the Alberni Valley
- They want one thing to do
- If we become the Natural Step community of the west coast, people would be able to do something to be part of the whole
- Community pride is important
- There are many people who are not comfortable in this type of meeting format – they don't feel comfortable in a group or speaking publicly
- How can people give ideas about this - maybe a booth in the mall
- Or sending ideas in to AV Times
- There have to be ways of contributing ideas that are easy to do
- Public events? Coffee shops?
- How about an add in the paper listing all the great gifts you can buy locally

Topic: How do we go about assuring a vision or group of ideas and getting everyone in the Valley to co-operate in implementation?

Convener: Dave Morton

Dialogue Participants: Dave Jarritt Sylvia Springer Ann Seigny
 Pam Day Neil Malbon

Note taker: Neil Malbon

Summary of Discussion:

- McLean Mill – split support for and against
- Poorly organized community
- Need to focus on Alberni Valley - not capturing tourists on their way to the west coast
- Beautiful, housing, new hospital, climate
- Community fractured between old and new
- Courtenay too big
- Citizens have been through downturn and have been jaded by failed 'mega' projects (i.e. aluminum smelter)
- Other communities have theme i.e. Winnie the Pooh
- Theme - steam
- Lack of directional signage
- Harbour Quay - hours of operation
- Other communities better organized with tourism
- Local pride lost I shift from industrial base - reduction in forest related jobs
- Need to promote community pride - artists, academics
- Industrial heritage - festival 20-30's
- Music, dress, plays
- Need to come up with a theme
- Need more pro-active articles - McLean Mill, Hospital
- Community fragmented - Port Alberni, Alberni, Beaver Creek, Cherry Creek, Sproat Lake
- How to promote and build on diversity
- Mid set - lots of volunteers

- Chamber of Commerce or others to champion -needs/natural
- City, Regional District, Community Futures Development Corporation, Chamber of Commerce, Pacific Rim Tourism Association
- Who promotes/encourages a common vision (or focus) for the Alberni Valley?
- Waterfront walkway
- Use of rail right of way
- 10¹¹¹ Avenue foot bridge and others to link town

**Group Dialogue Sessions
Round 2 –2:45 –3:30 pm**

Topic: 2010 Legacies Now –How do we capitalize on programs
(Sport/Recreation Now, Literacy Now, Arts Now, Volunteers Now)

Convener: Theresa Kingston

Dialogue Participants: Neil Malbon Sylvia Springer Pam Day
Shanny Nadudvary Ann Seigny

Note taker: Neil Malbon

Summary of Discussion :

- New government initiatives - Sport/Recreation Now, Literacy Now, Arts Now, Volunteers Now
- How to bring all sectors together –how to provide sustainable support to make it work together and be more sustainable
- Concern that organizations/sectors will pull a funding proposal off the shelf and submit instead of using this as an opportunity to bring the whole community together to look at something that ties all four programs together and is unique
- Volunteer base is shrinking –i.e. sports community
- Cooperation versus competition
- Community requires a theme or a focus
- Identify a project that brings all players to the table
- Flowers/fruit trees - gleaning program
- How to attract new volunteers
- People volunteer for things they feel strongly about
- Theme-Community Now
- Need incentive for individuals to become involved
- Non-traditional volunteers do not feel connected to the community
- Community building
- Artisans market
- Government not totally sure how to administer these programs -we can be in the forefront
- Possible competition on how to choose a project or include 'whole' population on decision/choice
- Olympics opportunities (economic) workshop
- Dan Washington chair of committee to look at 2010 opportunities
- Where to go from here
- Customer service training -beyond super host -customer friendly Alberni Valley

**Albemi Outlook 20/20
Open Space Forum #5 Proceedings
November 24th, 2004**

Participants

Donna Brett	Stacey Manson	Justin Prive
Richard Hartigan	Gail Morton	Mickey Smeele'
Dave Jarrett	Shanny Nadudvary	Seamus Stevenson
Lacey Josefson	Brynn Paulson ,	David Whiltshire

Outlook 20/20 Members

Theresa Kingston	Sylvia Springer	Keith Wyton
Neil Malbon	Barb Stevenson	
Don Mallon	Gary Swann	

Opening

Keith Wyton and Barbara Stevenson welcomed participants and gave a brief history of the formation/history of Albemi Outlook 20/20.

Theresa Kingston reviewed the Open Space process and invited participants to submit agenda items for dialogue.

**Group Dialogue Sessions
Round 1 – 1:45 – 2:30 pm**

Topic:	Village Centre		
Convener:	Mickey Smeele		
Dialogue Participants:	David Whitworth	Justin Prive	eamus Stevenson
	Barb Stevenson	Sylvia Springer	
Note taker:	Barb Stevenson		

Summary of Discussion:

- Idea for a long time
- Potter, painter, sews
- More support for visual arts in Port - "Qualicum - Salt Spring" style
- Setup village motif - storefronts
- Include living spaces with selling spaces - would attract a lot of interest - current by-laws prohibit this
- Walking area only - blocked streets
- Destination rather than a hallway
- Downtown Association – wants Argyle to become something like this - but no living space with selling spaces
- Need to change bylaws to acknowledge reality of artists economic cycles
- Need to have Community Futures available to fund this project
- Could be very attractive for other artists
- Low cost of living
- Could lead to festival - could include music
- Bylaws prevent blending living/selling
- Neighbourhood businesses
- Bylaws restrict creative solutions to lifestyle costs
- Bureaucratic mind set separates function of living and working in same location

- What are bylaws designed for?
- What criteria has been used to determine uses for different city locations
- Bylaws intended to prevent failures in business/artistic ventures
- Need failures to learn/grow -move outside the box

Topic: Water -How can we protect "our" water systems?
Convener: Gail Morton
Dialogue Participants: Dave Jarrett Richard Hartigan Keith Wyton
Note taker: Keith Wyton

Summary of Discussion :

- Community consumption do not justify using Great Central Lake
- Sproat Lake supply via mill pipeline should be enough
- Uchuklesaht project -water exports
- Jurisdictions overlap -who has responsibility for water
- Pesticides –are they necessary? We don't want to poison our water supply
- City pesticide use
- School district pesticide use

Topic: Somewhere teens can hang out without bothering others and still keep a positive image
Convener: Lacey Josefson/Brynn Poulson
Dialogue Participants: Sylvia Springer Stacey Manson
Note taker: Stacey Manson

Summary of Discussion:

- Nothing to do on Friday night now
- Coffee shop/diner idea to hang out and talk
- Walking around streets at night –causes problems
- Kenn Whitieman -create something with youth
- Something like Gyro
- Starbucks idea
- Dance for all teenagers
- Hours 8:00 pm - 12:30 am would be ideal
- Idea to come from teens; adults could mentor
- Place is so important
- Ages 15-19-older people can go to the bar
- People cause trouble because they are so bored
- All teens are painted with the same brush
- Live bands -Dan Redlin, Brody Winters, Davey Russel
- I.e. coca cola juke box/diner
- How would we make money?
- Cooking class to cook food
- Central Perk -Friends idea
- Students art displayed on walls
- Couches
- Redneck town -hard to persuade people to go
- Dance for underage people

Topic: Port Alberni -Bad Boys of Tourism

Convener: Shanny Nadudvary

Dialogue Participants:

Note taker: Shanny Nadudvary

Summary of Discussion:

- What we need is to control our independence as a municipality
- The technological approach to unified independence is through dollars
- So, gambling is the new age approach to making dollars for cities
- Dope dealers who have too much money will gamble at a casino in order to legitimize their money through receipt winnings at adds values
- Periphery casino activity – i.e. low life, drug dealing, prostitution
- If, the City of Port Albemi has it **** together to handle lots of cash, I am sure it can do it's "dirty laundry" as well

Topic: What is big in the Albemi Valley?

Convener: Guy Cicon

Dialogue Participants: Richard Hartigan Don Mallon Gary Swann
Donna Brett

Note taker: Don Mallon

Summary of Discussion:

- The biggest salmon
- Biggest heart -friendly people
- Everything is big in Port Alberni -very unique -biggest trees, water bombers, water falls
- Bulldog's are big
- Sports fields are big
- Baseball is declining -not enough young people
- Big vacancy in residential/commercial
- Big pain with local radio announcer
- Biggest saw blade at APD
- Can we use this to promote Port Albemi
- Big for protesters - change in forest practice -Tofino
- Big in the community is our community leaders
- Big seniors organization
- Biggest drag race, go cart, mountain bike race?
- Encourage new ideas
- Big salmon, maple leaf, slugs
- Biggest amount of sports facilities because of volunteers
- Big on ideas -new walking trails, mountain bike trails, bird watching
- We have a network of resources -make available to people with new ideas
- Internet Cafe -teens only
- Biggest roads
- Biggest water
- Biggest mushrooms
- Rally for causes -i.e. Variety Club Telethon

Group Dialogue Sessions

Round 2 –2:45 –3:30 pm

Topic: Improve paths for walking, biking, skateboarding, roller blading, etc. around town

Convener: Stacey Manson
Dialogue Participants : Donna Brett Mickey Smeele Lacey Josefson
 Gary Swann Justin Prive
Note taker: Lacey Josefson

Summary of Discussion:

- Place to walk e.g. skate boarding, buggies, skateboarders
- Around City
- Bike routes and half walk way
- Link one side to the other side
- Clutesi haven to Harbour Quay to mill
- Water front
- Vendor stands -food, drinks
- Some sand -not just rocks
- Lighted with solar lamps
- Chain link for safety
- Challenge to get companies to give permission to walk on property -damage and safety
- Everyone to chip in like done for the arena
- Walk from one place and get back to where you started
- Pavement boardwalk
- Stamped concrete
- Tourists stops along route
- Need bridge
- Playground on route -like Parksville, Nanaimo
- Linked to village centre -comes through it
- Portion going one way and another
- Level it out
- Slalom path
- Busses have bike racks
- Lady Rose link
- Student painting sponsor
- Architectural art around on chain link fence
- Squares available
- Doesn't have to be on the water
- We need to get people involved
- Service clubs -how do they get involved
- Suspended bridge
- Extend trail to Lugin Creek
- Paved is important
- Hook up to dike –Hupacasath
- Solar power -alternative wave power
- Interpretative trail network
- Tap into Provincial and Federal money
- Link to Farmers Market at Harbour Quay
- Previous idea of linking to Cherry Creek
- Must be paved
- Note -speak with Scott Smith –City Planner for Official Community Plan
- Dave Smith -Regional District Planner
- Insurance issues

- Slippery leaves -pavement is better
- Port Authority involved
- Kitsuksis Creek to Roger Creek to Harbour Quay

Title: How do we ensure that topics from 20/20 are a) communicated to those with power to act on them and b) acted on

Convener: David Whitworth

Dialogue Participants: Keith Wyton Don Mallon Dave Jarrett
 Sylvia Springer Theresa Kingston Barb Stevenson
 Guy Cicon

Note taker: Don Mallon

Summary of Discussion:

- We must follow through –get the results to the power people
- Or we don't and continue on with the same process as we are doing, open space and the 20/20 process
- Who do we go to –city, regional district- confusing -two groups with different agendas
- How do priorities get established and then executed -we have a number of different agencies, duplication i.e. fire departments
- Parksville has or is putting a number of different agencies under one roof
- Outlook 20/20 has gathered information but from a small number of people –cross fertilized a large number of people from diverse occupations -we need to continue the process
- People who have attended these meetings are coming away with new ideas
- Politicians should be looking at the data Outlook 20/20 has accumulated -this is what is important to get reelected.
- The open forum is valuable –other groups want to use it
- Summary of all the issues in paper, TV and radio
- Out of these meetings comes great ideas and people who have passion -moved forward on new ideas
- Putting the people who have same ideas to get together; provide the communication , people to put there resources forward use the energy
- Putting the puzzle together -connect the people; idea brokers

Title: Drawing people into Port Alberni - Tourism

Convener: Seamus Stevenson

Dialogue Participants:

Note taker:

Summary of Discussion :

Notes were not submitted on this topic.

Phase 1 Open Space Topic Summary

Session	#	Agenda Topic	Convenor	#
Sept. 23 ^{ro}	33	Aging infrastructure	Rick Taylor	4
		Utilizing the waterfront	Phil Guild	11
		New ways to Inteorate and Deliver community services	Ron Jon::ienson	8
		Ways to make the community thrive	Darlene Coulson	8
		How do we generate passion and involvement	Anne Graboski	8
		Poverty reduction	Michelle Colussi	12
		Sustainable resource use	Kathy Burkosky	4
		Roadways - planning	Craig Duncan	13
Oct. 4 th	37	Beauty in Port Alberni – Where is it and how do we create it?	Dea Haminishi	6
		Positive aspects of Port Alberni	Darrin Olsen	9
		Positive Action Community	Winston Joseph	8
		Water pipeline - Great Central Lake	Dusty Miller	5
		College to draw younoer people to Port Alberni	Seamus Stevenson	9
		Positive Balanced Tourism	David Witworth	10
		Squamish, Revelstoke, Canmore - happening here?	Dave Parsons	7
		What contributes to Healthy Families	Alanna Miller	4
		What 'community' are we talking about?	Jim McManus	6
		Establish Port Alberni as a Retirement Community	Dusty Miller	0
Oct. 20 ^h	34	Bridging ethnicity and opportunity	Kevin Floyd	5
		Change for the better	Shanny Nadudvary	3
		Environmental Sustainability	John Mayba	9
		Community Forests - Why? Where?	Ken Watson	11
		Identifying recreation assets - underused/undervalued - local use and tourism	Blake Johnson	6
		Preparing for the future - success of post industry towns	Kevin Floyd	10
		Developing hiking trails	Ron Lepine	8
		The future of the rail right of way	Robert Gunn	5
		2010 Olympics	Neil Malbon	4
Nov. 7 ^m	16	2020 – What do we look like? (How do we get there?)	David Whitworth	6
		How do we market the Alberni Valley (sustainable marketing)	Darren Olsen	6
		How do we go about assuring a vision or group of ideas and getting everyone in the Avlley to co-operate in implementation?	Dave Morton	6
		2010 Legacies Now – How do we capitalize on 2010 Olympic opportunities	Theresa Kingston	6
Nov. 24 ^m	19	Village Centre	Mickey Smeele	6
		Water - How can we protect "our" water systems?	Gail Morton	4
		Somewhere teens can hang out without bothering others and still keep a positive image	Lacey Josefson/ Brynn Poulson	4
		Port Alberni – Bad Boys of Tourism	Shanny Nadudvary	1
		What is big in the Alberni Valley?	Guy Cicon	5
		Improve paths for walking, biking, etc.	Stacey Manson	6
		How do we ensure topics from 20120 are communicated and acted on	David Whitworth	8

Phase 2: Invitation

Alberni Outlook 20/20 invites you to participate in the second series of discussions about the Alberni Valley.

Please join us to continue the discussions about the Future of the Alberni Valley. Between September and November of 2004, Outlook 20/20 held five public sessions to discuss the issues and opportunities surrounding the present and future of the Alberni Valley. Over 28 discussions were convened with over 125 participants. The proceedings of the sessions were evaluated to determine the most frequent themes. The next step is to continue the dialogue and determine some positive actions that can be taken to address these themes.

The themes to be discussed are:

- **Utilizing the Waterfront**
- **Diversifying the Economy**
- **Positive Marketing/Tourism**
- **Developing trails for biking, hiking, walking**
- **Sustainability**
- **Generating passion and involvement**
- **ArtisansNillage Centre**
- **Addressing Poverty**

We hope to mix past experience, present realities and all our hopes and dreams to shape the future of the Alberni Valley. It is hoped that this discussion will go along way towards the resolution of current issues and realization of untapped potential in the Valley.

You have been invited because you are passionate about the community and have skills, experiences and insights that are essential to make it better.

Date/Time	Wednesday, February 2nd	7:00 – 10:00 pm
	Monday, February 7th	7:00 – 10:00 pm
Location:	Cedar Rooms, Echo Centre	
Process:	This process will utilize an Open Space format, enabling all issues and opportunities, related to the theme, for which you have passion and for which you are prepared to take responsibility, to be identified and discussed.	

As a result of these meetings, we will have:

- established strategic themes, clear priorities, actions steps,
- gathered new ideas, resources and people and connected them to these themes,
- distributed all of this information to a (re)energized and action-ready community of people,
- empowered them to tell that story to the rest of their organizations, community, or world, and
- seeded cycles of invitation that will continue to pull people into places where they can maximize their own learning and contribution.

It's time to get to work. Please join us on February 2nd and/or 7th to discuss the issues and opportunities for the Alberni Valley that you care about. Your participation is important to our success! Please call Sylvia at 723-7185 or Theresa at 720-2506 to confirm your attendance.

Note: All 8 themes will be discussed at both sessions – each night you will have an opportunity to engage in dialogue around two of the themes. You are welcome to attend either night or both nights. Participation is open to anyone who is interested – participants did not have to participate in the initial sessions. Spread the word – bring your family and friends to two evenings of important dialogue about our community.

Please join us... and be prepared to be surprised.

Open Space Proceedings

**Alberni Outlook 20/20
Open Space Forum Phase 2 Proceedings
February 2^od, 2005**

Participants:

Libby Avis	Kevin Floyd	Carla Meckling
Rick Avis	Joan Frohn-Nielsen	Karen Odenwald
Shirley Beulah	Anne Graboski •	Dave Parsons
Cathy Burkosky	Phil Guild	Jason Penner
Bruce Cameron	Dea Haminishi	MaryAnn Rausch
Harold Carlson	Melinda Hjelholt	Cal Samis
Judy Carlson	Ursula Henning	Scott Smith
Guy Cicon	Tracy Horovatin	Trent Snickers
Rob Cole	Dave Jarrett	Seamus Stevenson
Erin Dale	Blake Johnson	Frank Stini
Craig Duncan	Ron Lepine	W.E. Strong
Donna Duncan	Dave McKellar	Jack Thornburg
Jack Fjeld	B.F. McLellan	F.W. Zens

Outlook 20/20 members:

Tom Hall	Darrin Olson	Gary Swann
Theresa Kingston	Sylvia Springer	Keith Wyton
Don Mallon	Barb Stevenson	

Opening

Keith Wyton, Co Chair Alberni Outlook 20/20, welcomed participants and gave a brief history of the formation/history of Alberni Outlook 20/20.

Theresa Kingston reviewed the Open Space process and invited participants to select an agenda topic for dialogue.

Group Dialogue Sessions

Topic: Addressing Poverty
 Convener: Sylvia Springer
 Dialogue Participants: Jack Thornburg Seamus Stevenson Barb Stevenson
 Donna Duncan
 Note taker: Barb Stevenson

- Summary of Discussion:
- Knew someone who didn't even have heat in the middle of winter
- Believes everyone has right to basics
- At work sees range of poverty -believes it is appalling
- Thinks we need basic living income to sustain living
- People who try but can't earn living and those who can earn but don't try
- Basis of culture -taking care of all of our citizens

- Providing essential needs
- Helping elderly single women with co-op housing
- There is always a reason why it won't work – need to turn it around so we look for solutions to make it happen
- See people walking all night – no place to sleep and see the rooms above Arlington are sitting empty
- Housing -hostels, etc. but need long term discussion
- Tough situations – sustain those who can never support themselves and help those who need a hand to get out of poverty
- Drug & Alcohol Centre opposed by local citizens at Beaver Creek school
- Find another residential centre
- Lobby political leaders to adopt action for minimum living standards
- Welfare system promotes deceit among recipients – such a humiliating experience
- Heightening awareness by linking community values to giving/volunteerism in our community
- Who are the poor? – single moms/older people
- What about Zellers? – make small apartments
- Use recycling to fund programs for addressing poverty
- Action: respond to actions that support or increase poverty
- Letters to the editor or public meetings to bring perspective to public about poverty issue
- Research and circulate (newspapers/letters) information about levels (stats, etc.) of poverty and encourage public support for lobby to establish minimum living standards for the province
- Address issues that prevent poor from upgrading/education/working – child care, transportation
- i.e. make it easier for people to help themselves
- safe injection sites
- regular articles in paper about "face of poverty" in Port Albemi

Topic: Diversifying the Economy

Convener: Craig Duncan

Dialogue Participants: Tom Hall Tracy Horovatin Anne Grabowski
Jack Fjeld Scott Smith Cathy Burkosky
Bruce Cameron Keith Wyton

Note taker: Keith Wyton

Summary of Discussion:

- Where are we now? Change will happen slowly
- possible areas: specialty agriculture, Agra tourism, tourism, expanding farmers market, organic farmers have market access problems
- are Wal Mart/Extra Foods setting the pace – new jobs – closer than Nanaimo
- What is driving the economy? Dirty Milltown image – where are high tech manufacturing
- our website sucks
- education is required to make the transition
- a theme like logging could be a unifying theme
- a vibrant alive community will keep people here
- logging and mining still is a big driver in the province – tourism is a small wealth generator
- opportunities just aren't here – why don't we have a bigger college – foreign students – BCIT campus in Port Albemi
- industry – retiring trades need training now
- What could we be? – resource based trades training – expand seats for underutilized college
- who could carry imitative of college communication with BCIT
- Port capacity – Vancouver running out of room – utilize port for imports
- Train reinstalled to move containers

- Tourism -people need a reason to stop – Stirling Field in town; campground, pool -place for families; day trips to destinations -activity centre
- City is calling for proposals for Stirling Field -a co-op could develop a project -so we own our own future
- People are going to retire here
- Summary comments -more possibilities spread over the community
- Through tourism, more business, small farms -hemp, stevia
- Where are we now?
- Diversification is not a fast process
- Important to think about stuff beyond industrial/resource/tourism
- Very fertile land -agri-tourism
- Organic farms -volunteer workers/hostel
- Farming has changed -econ-farming
- Challenge getting stuff to market
- Another farmer's market
- Cheeseplant
- Community garden
- Is there legislation that needs to be changed?
- Lack of clear coherent vision
- What's driving our economy
- Websites not well done in this town
- Last community -we are an industrial town
- Action -education -alternatives; what's our theme?
- How do you keep the youth here -better post secondary education, vibrant alive community
- Alberni -be a university town
- How do we encourage the college to expand
- How do we get industry to get involved in investing in schooling in the trades –BCIT partnership with NIC
- Deep sea port for importing
- Bring back the train
- Airport need a tower and proper lighting
- RV Park at McLean's Mill
- Stirling Field
- Our vision –good jobs, healthy environment, rewarding careers -that Alberni Valley citizens own and direct
- A lot more possibilities for people to stay here
- Bring in a prison?
- Fisherman's market at the wharf in the summer

Topic: Trails
Convener: Blake Johnson
Dialogue Participants: Kevin Floyd Velva Strong Libby Avis
Joan Frohn Nielsen Rick Avis Ron Lepine
Karen Odenwald MaryAnn Rausch Judy Carlson
Gary Swann Guy Cicon Ursula Henning
Harold Carlson Frank Stini Dave Jarrett

Note taker: Judy Carlson

- Summary of Discussion:**
- Need network to get around town

- Need maps
- City should solicit input for citizen's wishes
- NRD trails booklet -example for us
- Arrowsmith park proposals -sponsored by AAC
- Have to keep logging roads open for recreation – future threat of closure with privatization
- Climbers access society works for access also mapping and booklets needed
- Protect key corridors and trails -get them formally recognized -have to get logging, private landholders and politicians onside
- Rock climbing on cliffs can promote wall climbing businesses
- Now to put pressure on RD
- Prioritize different standards of maintenance for different sections; with signs
- Funding possibilities -Olympics? Corporations? Credit Union?
- Maps/booklets would keep people (tourists) here another night -greatest financial return from trails - good for all ages
- How to get information together and put pressure on RD

Topic: Generating involvement in the process

Convener: Anne Graboski

Dialogue Participants:	Bruce Cameron	Kathy Burkosky	Dea Haminishi
	Sylvia Springer	Frank Stini	Donna Duncan

Note taker: Dea Haminishi

Summary of Discussion:

- Vision?
- All things are a good idea
- Small accomplishments are motivating
- Talking alone is helpful
- Sharing info with greater community and they respond to key questions
- Work with funded community agencies to move forward on goals
- Recycling
- Beach between Harbour Quay and Marina -what if a few people cleaned it up
- The new walk way from Victoria Quay to the Marina
- Building a vision – for all people to work toward for example Community Futures, Chamber of Commerce,
- Having town involved before we connect with above agencies
- Survey, questionnaire, pamphlet -to get a vision that can go to funding agencies -Albemi Valley not just Port Alberni
- Invite "power people" to be involved -Dan Washington, Winston Joseph, Gary Wagner, Chris Gibson, Rick from newspaper, Lions and Rotary Clubs, City Council, Wendy Ewing, Arena people, Tom McEvay, Terry Whyte, and Joe Blow, grassroots people -personally invite these people
- Some of these people have enough on their plate
- Gathering some new people -bring one more person to the next event
- The process has been amorphous -some cynicism -start and stop
- Commitment from larger group to come back Monday and bring 1 or 2 people -Anne will do this
- Send emails for more people
- Letter to the editor
- Contest -write 1 paragraph of your vision of the Albemi Valley
- Do questionnaire as a raffle/contest
- 1 page in the newspaper every Friday -responses printed in the paper; people would respond to what they read last week -create more passion

- newspaper gets advertising spaced on that page
- more than one prize
- Open Space with teens -also across the diversity -elders, first nations, cultural centres -bridging across cultures in community
- All visions are equally valuable
- We are active in creating the community we live in
- Need public pressure for action to happen -recycling
- Looking for someone with connection to newspaper -recommendation for contest to go through Outlook 20/20
- Contest -one topic per month -recycling, walking trails, vision of Port Albemi
- Also Pennyworth
- Laser eye clinic in Port Albemi
- What does an involved populace look like?
- Show some accomplishments to the residents in order to get them more involved – invite friends and acquaintances to next meetings
- Involvements good no matter what happens – even just the meetings engender passion for the community
- More people = more pressure on those in charge of making change
- Can be some individuals working together on projects, or many individuals -i.e. small groups can do a lot in their area of passion
- Need to do a survey -door to door – questionnaire, info
- Invite people from organizations and groups in the valley -i.e. Lions Clubs, etc.
- Letters to the editor, contests – 1 page in every Friday paper talking about the vision for the valley
- Include teenagers, elders, first nations, all sectors -bridging between cultures -Chinese, East Indian
- Community awareness through this process -makes people more aware in general – in their community involvement in other areas
- More people involved
- Divided community
- Pamphlets to broader community
- Take this momentum and start working with agencies
- Small groups start the ideas – small steps
- Individuals taking steps and pulling others along
- But, for all this to happen, we need the vision -a document, a plan
- Build this vision with the help of agencies in town
- We need more people
- Invite specific people with power
- What if each person brought one more person
- Some cynicism
- Letter to the editor
- Contest -what's your vision
- Questionnaire -one question per month -newspaper/Pennyworth; every Friday page -sell advertising for the page; pick a name from the barrel
- Place for a cohesive vision, but also important that there be room for other visions
- recycling

Topic: Tourism - Marketing

Convener: Darrin Olson

Dialogue Participants: Tom Hall

Jack Fjeld

Dave Parsons

Carla Meckling

Tracy Horovatin

Erin Dale

Melinda Hjelholt	Cal Samis	Seamus Stevenson
Ron Lepine	Rob Cole	Blake Johnson
MaryAnn Rausch	Barb Stevenson	

Note taker: Blake Johnson/Barb Stevenson

• **Summary of Discussion :**

- need for a beach -used to be more -Harbour Quay
- No awareness of town -what we offer? What a family can do?
- Some attractions exist -Stamp Falls, Sproat Lake, McLean Mill -they need marketing to make the road the attraction -name it –have a centre for attractions
- Bus people from the to the Rim –it works for Oceanside
- Community in transition -the mill is a fact of life so how to market the positive changes –cleaning up of the river/estuary -market mill cleaned up
- Beautification of the city
- Problem liking with trails along the waterfront
- Fishing very popular -need to make it more professional -upgrade the image -the inlet is beautiful
- Not enough knowledge about mining and other historical industries
- Need to get information to people about what we have here
- Tourism can bring employment
- Signage -need a better signage system
- Not enough money in the city -get external dollars
- We need a plan –a vision -hard to attract business investment in tourism
- Quality of the water
- Vision must embrace the past (mill/forestry/mining) and set a plan
- Great spirit in town
- Idea of "Bernie" -what's Bernie doing –fishing, hiking, scuba, etc.
- Get 'real' in Port Alberni to show authentic nature of the town
- What make us a tourism draw –access to Tofino/Ucluelet, canal/inlet, trails/hiking, bicycling, mountains, inexpensive, natural beauty, fishing, heritage/pre-post contact, we have a piece of the best of BC
- Cathedral Grove -20 minutes away, Della Falls, the Adventure Highway #4
- "We have it all", "Come and Enjoy the Alberni Valley Adventure Highway"; "Alberni Valley -We Have it All"
- lots of potential -good place to live and raise a family
- should have wish list at mall for citizens to write what they would like to see
- should have own beach -used to be one where quay is
- revitalize south end of town
- So many people drive through town to west coast but don't stop –some attractions exist but need marketing to give people reason to stop. PA is gateway to West Coast
- Highway can scare some and attracts others –compared with Squamish highway -Road to Tofino worse. Some places turn drives like the hump/Cameron Lake into an attraction -market drive itself
- so much to do here –hard to focus on a few for marketing
- need a destination -multi featured -something for everyone in the family
- need to face up to the pulp mill being here -people are surprised to find it here –not in any promo pictures -if people understand role of pulp mill it doesn't blow people away
- showcase ourselves a balanced community -industry operating in a natural habitat -don't hid the mill -make it positive
- dispel old information -mill might buy in –contribute to tourism
- Transform the waterfront with some artificiality –fishing strong -we don't promote that because it is strong. We should develop/market that more

- Pacific Princess in Ucluelet goes strong even when fishing not heavy
- Need to promote historic value of Valley -mining was huge in Alberni (PA reason why E&N was built)
- There are draws here already -promote them
- Create destination image by using our diversity to create a complete package then promote that
- Have info centre that tells visitors what is here
- Some of these tourist opportunities not developed because employment is seasonal -cannot compete with resource jobs
- How can we move this forwards
- City/RD working on better promo signage on highway
- Plan and set priorities
- Access to 2010 Legacy Funds
- Dry Creek – why isn't it a campground?
- Challenge is not enough \$ in community to develop some of these places – need to go out of town for money -prioritize our projects for development
- City vs. RD – infighting frustrates plans to move projects forward -need to get together -have no vision
- Need guide certification -mountain biking, kayaking, etc. -partner with NIC
- Vision – integrate -invite and develop – won't attract talent in to develop tourism without vision
- How do we draw in community to plan integrated tourism development? Sell idea through promoting spin off benefits
- Embrace the past, set a vision, solicit support -need a common goal
- Use example of new arena -"if you build it, they will come"
- Many objected before it was built -now no one would let it go
- Squamish sign -Outdoor Recreation Capital of Canada
- Port Albemi works backwards – once community has committed to plan – community rallies behind it
- Attractions -access to Tofino/West Coast; Trails/cave/waterfall; fishing/canoeing/kayaking; mill/heritage/historical sites
- We aren't the best at any one thing but we have access to everything that makes BC beautiful

Topic: Sustainability

Convener: Gary Swann

Dialogue Participants: Judy Carlson Fritz Zens Rick Avis
 Guy Cicon Keith Wyton Jack Thornburg

Note taker: Keith Wyton

Summary of Discussion:

- Forestry should be included as important aspect
- Natural resources -energy
- Sustainability should be linked with economic diversity
- Global warming -how does it fit in
- How can people realize that sustainability is in their own self interest
- Where are we now - still on the slide -but population growing
- Where are we going –how to accommodate growth
- Recycling -Regional District –selling space in landfill to pay for recycling
- Who needs to be involved – a cultural change required – it is a huge challenge -we are all required
- Move from low hanging fruit -first successes bring ability to deal with harder
- First small steps required -public education

- Co-op to show and/or work -possible retail/gallery space
- Warehouse
- Rental space to work
- Workshops/courses
- Visiting artists
- Someone is trying this at Victoria Quay?
- First Nations and Alberni Valley culture
- Rollin Centre is out of the way
- Browsing space -need things going on around
- Bamfield's Artisan's workshop
- Revelstoke -every night shut down the street and music is played for 2 hours -all summer
- Where would people want it?
- Sculpture contest -way to make Argyle Street beautiful and cooler in summer; or 3rd Avenue – boulevard on hill
- Like Campbell River chainsaw competition
- Free form contest, vandalism proof
- Would pull people up from Harbour Quay
- Connect music and sculpture contest
- Ocean Festival
- Drag race
- Tall ships
- Harbour Quay would be a great place for all of these –market, food, artisans, fishing, Lady Rose, train
- A place to walk -not vehicles -lots of place to park around
- Creating a reason to be there -have a look
- Permanent signage for Framer's Market -also McLean's Mill
- Artist co-op -how would you find out how many people are interested? - survey in Pennyworth
- A place to show/work –artists could rent a space in a building to do work -then a gallery to show
- Victoria Quay info centre
- Barnfield Days has artisans/bands
- Sculpture contest to draw people
- Farmers market could it not go longer during the day, maybe more than once a week
- Signage
- How many people are interested in an Artisan's co-op?
- How much money would it take?
- Train station has large empty space behind -or at historic site at Arena
- Above Port Boat House space available –check with Port Authority
- Train station -check with city for space
- Granville Island –create a big market on Saturday and Sunday -no limits on what we do
- Community Arts Council -could be a place to connect artists, well established group
- If there was co-op space available what would that cost
- Olympic funding
- Culture Crawl in Vancouver -artists open studios -wander in and out of houses; ages 15-25 -affordable ways for youth to do art; workshops once a month
- Offer workshop once a month -get local or not local artists
- By doors in back of train station -area to use -city owned -check with Scott Kenny/Jean McIntosh – Erin to check out
- Or space at old arena -Industrial Heritage Society
- Dave will phone and check space at Harbour Quay -Port Authority

- Space as Somass Hotel
- Swale Rock space -Penny Cote
- Seaman's Haven
- Old drugstore on corner of 3rd and Argyle
- Needs an entrepreneurial person to support – artists generally don't have the motivation and skills to set up a co-op
- Musicians -motivated and create a lot of energy
- Phil was involved in community safety days –got youth band in and it was a good fit
- When cut off traffic on Harbour Quay get tons of complaints

Closing

Participants gathered for closing comments. Everyone felt that the evening had been worthwhile and did not want the process to stop. Outlook 20/20 will be in touch with participants to let them know 'next steps'.

**Alberni Outlook 20/20
Open Space Forum Phase 2 Proceedings
February 7th, 2005**

Participants:

Jochem Jurrlink	Jack Thornburg	David MacFadden
Marc Sundstrom	Charmead Schella.	Tracey Neuwirth
Terry MacFadden	Erin Dale	Patty Edwards
Bernadette Wyton	Mickey Smeele •	Ron Arcos
Maggie Paquet	Blake Johnson	Myrna McFadden
Jack Fjeld	Gabby Osbourne	David Whitworth
Joan Frohn-Nielsen	Ike Patterson	Ron Lepine
Melinda Hjelholt	Anne Graboski	Donna Duncan
Cal Samis	Joel Graboski	Bruce Cameron
Dave Jarrett	Maryann Washington	Julie Morgan
Cathy Burkosky	Lawerence MacLean	Chris Marshall
Judy Carlson	Dea Haminishi	
Frank Stini	Dave Parsons	

Outlook 20/20 members:

Tom Hall	Sylvia Springer	Keith Wyton
Theresa Kingston	Barb Stevenson	
Darrin Olson	Gary Swann	

Opening

Keith Wyton, Co Chair Alberni Outlook 20/20, welcomed participants and gave a brief history of the formation/history of Alberni Outlook 20/20.

Theresa Kingston reviewed the Open Space process and invited participants to submit agenda items for dialogue.

Group Dialogue Sessions

Topic: Addressing Poverty
Convener: Tom Hall
Dialogue Participants: Julie Morgan, Gary Swann, Mary Ann Washington, Patty Edwards, Donna Duncan, Terry McFadden, Jack Thornburg

Note taker: Jack Thornburg/Mary Ann Washington

Summary of Discussion:

- Disability applications is what I work to help people with and 95% of applicants don't want to be on it
- Poverty rates don't measure those who are under employed, like her daughter. Inability to understand the forms -EI, welfare.
- People need basic needs met: food, shelter. Should be a basic human right.
- Maybe a few volunteers could be available to help several people at a time (small workshop) on EI info, forms, etc.

- What about a Society of Organized Services here in town, with several advocacy volunteers to help people deal with the bureaucracy, from one central location.
- Self sufficiency in food-growing could be encouraged as in John Jeavorn's How to Grow More Vegetables. Six million dollars in produce comes into the valley every year.
- Need a recycling and re-use station like Re-Store in Nanaimo to refurbish older or discarded items and resell them. Marginally employed people could staff it.
- Seniors who can't maintain/repair their homes need advocacy and professional or volunteer help.
- Can't believe the range of things people come in to ask from the government or MLA. Neighbours helping neighbours.
- Change Women's Resources to Community Resources, like a Society of Organized Services.
- People have trouble accessing services because they either don't know about them or are not capable due to lack of education or disability.
- Some programs are designed to be difficult to access, i.e. 1-800#, websites or simply a difficult intimidating process
- If basic needs (food, shelter) are not being met; it is impossible for people to move forward.
- An organization or group of people to advocate for people; community access centre
- Self-reliant work to grow food, city to donate land
- The organization can also lobby municipal, provincial and federal governments for better services
- People who are living in poverty feel a disconnect to the community – lack of self esteem
- Some type of facility that would collect used working appliances, bathroom fixtures, etc. and recycling that could provide work for people and the items could go to those in poverty
- City could waive property taxes for empty buildings that are then leased for next to nothing to groups for a recycling centre, etc.
- Soup kitchens, lunch programs, etc. have allowed government to not provide more appropriate welfare rates
- Banks, big business to fund programs like Habitat for Humanity and Community Gardens
- More a sense of community; neighbours helping neighbours
- Volunteer Bureau needed, cancelled by Ministry of Human Resources
- Maybe instead of Women's Resource Centre it should be a Community Resource Centre

Topic: Diversifying the Economy

Convener: David Whitworth

Dialogue Participants: Joel Graboski Sylvia Springer Bruce Cameron

Note taker: Bruce Cameron

Summary of Discussion:

- Won't do anything until crash
- More leeway on land use
- Grapes
- Local markets
- Look for West Coast models to follow
- Statue at Johnston
- Coombs
- Waterfront village
- Secure enough to leave home for moths without worry
- Lack of a place to get dressed up and go out
- Replace mill with golf course and village
- Tying into college - foreign students

Topic: Trails -Non motorized use

Convener: Blake Johnson
Dialogue Participants: Judy Carlson Maggie Paquet Jack Fjeld
 Joan Frohn Nielsen Marc Sundstrom Ron Lepine
 Myrna McFadden Terry McFadden
Note taker: Maggie Paquet/Myrna McFadden

Summary of Discussion:

- Points of consideration
- Overuse -where, which ones?
- Multiple use trails
- Signage, etiquette (who yields to who)
- Low level of information to the public users of trails (including dike)
- AV is behind other communities in recognizing and organizing a trail system and value of one
- Partnerships of volunteer (user) groups, government agencies, and business/corporate
- Need an inventory -categorize as to uses, classifications
- Need to know what other processes/resources have already happened so we don't reinvent the wheel
- Need to know what we want before we go asking for anything, especially to government and business
- What are all the kinds?
- MOF Recreation Manual -where is it? Get a copy
- Log Train Trail -bench
- Grouse Grind type of thing on Copper Mountain with a gazebo on top
- Maintenance -need more people well trained -insurance
- Land tenure –private, crown –easements for public use
- Important to have easy access to information about trails that already exist (e.g. everyone knows the Log Train Trail, but. ..)
- Port Alberni is one of the top spots nationally for mountain biking
- Connect West Coast Trail to Port Alberni
- Connecting even Victoria Quay to Harbour Quay and on to Polly's Point goes through at least 8 jurisdictions
- Begin trail development at Victoria Quay? From here you could work out in a wide network
- If we don't take control of our future (and of development) it will occur uncontrolled. It is coming! Parksville is an example of one community that hasn't taken charge and Qualicum is an example of one that has.
- A trail from Harbour Quay up through Roger Creek linking with the Log Train Trail
- Another link could be up from Kitsuksis up to McLean Mill
- How do we access funding that is just waiting to be accessed? E.g. Government plans for development of community plans, 2010 Olympic Legacy funding.
- A bike corridor is needed in town. Can it exist in conjunction with current hiking trails? Could the city designate a bike route?
- What are the baby steps to promote our trails? Signage?

Topic: Generating involvement in the process

Convener: Anne Graboski
Dialogue Participants: Barb Stevenson Kathy Burkosky Keith Wyton
Note taker: Keith Wyton

Summary of Discussion:

- Has to be a way to move forward
- Would a petition to the city be useful
- A mail out could be useful –survey
- City seems to be looking for new ways to communicate

- How to send a political message to Council and Regional District
- Is sustainability a way of looking
- Budget could be adjusted to meet the political support
- Lets get a 1000 signatures and give them to Council
- 1000 signatures is not necessary
- letter from players involved
- convene meeting
- approach Council and ask for permission to meet with city planner
- how will this help them - will it get them elected
- page in the paper

Topic: Tourism -Marketing

Convener: Dave

Dialogue Participants: Ike Patterson Calan Gabby Osbourne
 Tracey Char Neil Malbon
 Melinda (Mindy)

Note taker: Char, Neil Malbon

Summary of Discussion:

- Marketing bodies in Port Alberni - Pacific Rim Tourism Association associated with TAVI, Chamber of Commerce
- Branding -name change -is it negative?
- Port Alberni vs. Alberni Valley
- Day of the Arts -April 25th -artisan collective day (52 artists involved) -biannually
- Partnering with someone/thing else -i.e. Rock and Gem Show -to twin it with like minded events
- Calendar of Events – artistic/cultural -for both tourists and locals -"What to do/See in Port Alberni all year"
- Guest books for tourists in order to follow up on service –customer service would be tailored
- Location seems to be key in PA
- Ferry tourist boat route -Victoria to Port Alberni (see the tourism dates: bears, bird sanctuary, etc. maybe water taxi service
- Farmer's market; forest festival -July, Dragon boat, Wind surfing tournament -August, Whalefest - March, Storm Watching, Salmon Festival, Oktoberfest, Day of the Artist, Air Streams, Tall Ships.
- Cruise ships -May/early September -3 this year
- Growth -let it flourish before it is overly taxed
- Busking -could it be controlled and then cashed in on
- Co-operation with businesses to assist each other
- Harbour Quay can it be changed at all to improve it –i.e. maybe move parking lot where farmer's market is held
- Music festivals -maybe think about starting some up
- Town fragmented -tradition of jurisdiction
- Calendar of events
- Destination -more than just special events
- Water Bomber at Stirling Field
- Signage
- Accurate tourism #'s
- Billboards/hoarding s
- External press coverage -task of Chamber of Commerce and PRTA -newspaper and TV
- Positive marketing
- Destination -marking of attractions -clustering services

- OCP -tourism activities/services -zoning
- Ned to embrace/promote our industrial heritage old and new

Topic: Sustainability
Convener: Bernadette Wyton
Dialogue Participants: Gary Swann Gabrielle Kelly Maggie Paquet
 Lawrence McLean Frank tini Jack Thornburg
Note taker: Gary Swann

Summary of Discussion:

- Sustainability Centre -Portland
- Could it link with something like SOS -copy it
- Funding -Real Estate Foundation of BC - \$30,000
- Fridge stickers about the bottle depot
- Recycle copper wire based on European experience
- Recycle computers -electronics recycling
- Cradle to grave (cradle to cradle)
- Retailers to prevent garbage coming in -importing garbage without long term plan
- Free Store at recycling centre
- Repair-recycling
- Glass blowing from recycled glass
- Home owners bans on pesticides
- Bear smart training
- Landfill holidays twice a year
- Community energy plan -solarpanels
- Civic leaders
- Stewardship colurrm in paper -editorial comments
- Organization committee continue meeting
- Sustainability plan -mass public involvement
- Bear watch for Log Train Trail
- Natural Step
- In conjunction with other organizations -Sustainability Centre-Mental Health Recycling Centre (other stuff); SOS-organizations under one roof - have one in Portland
- Advocacy
- Radio Shack -batteries
- Mercury/Cadmium, etc. in computers -reusing computers -give to seniors/churches, etc.; cell phones/ipods
- Composting
- Glass kiln
- Bear smart community -waste management , by laws for handling garbage, OCP
- Retailers -Canadian Tire
- Ken McRae -herbicides/pesticides -TNS
- 4-5 composting depots
- www.foci.org
- building code -separate water -gray
- Parks and Recreation - sustainability
- Small groups to initiate plan
- Real estate \$ to help with funding

Topic: Art Stuff/Fun Stuff and People in Port Alberni

Convener:

Dialogue Participants: Mickey Smeele Erin Dale Dave Parsons
Jochem Juurlink Chris Marshall Dea Haminishi

Note taker: Dea Haminishi

Summary of Discussion :

- Celtic artists coming from Scotland/Ireland -combined music and art festival; establish over time
- Batstar Kayaks and coffee -enough businesses on this side of town
- Luminary Festival not happening this year -why?
- South Port good area for backpacker tourism
- Who organized Luminary? Ask Theresa. Youthink was here 3 years ago -they did family oriented music festival
- Have more than one festival at once –save resources
- Community Arts Council –artists don't want to get organized
- Mickey and Chris both feel able to offer organizational space and time to support an art group
- FALUTALY -For Artists Like Us to Artists Like You
- AVA –Alberni Valley Artists
- Artists aren't here -not so much a community
- Mickey is willing to sell art through her shop and internet
- No market in Port -will need to be built
- Community Arts Council-2010 Olympics – 5 pieces of community art paid to be put up around town –another project unknown by members
- What if someone owned a big building -place to create and display art
- They function in big cities where apartment living
- Ifthey have woodshop, welding shop, darkroom,,, big things that people can't afford to own or have space for
- There are good artists –need demand and reputation as place for good art
- Island has good reputation for festivals –spring or fall
- Streetfest in Nelson –streets shut down, all sorts of artists
- Side walk sale - shut down 3rd Avenue
- Warehouse space at train station -close to Harbour Quay
- Sculptures up Argyle
- If families involved more people willing to help out
- Cynthia Lowe does music in town
- New backpackers hostel coming into town –has lots of people;has structure to take phone calls and connect people
- Boulevard and sculptures up Argyle
- Ifpeople walk up Argyle makes all storefronts more valuable – too hot to walk up there in mid-summer
- Electric tram around town -alternative fuel vehicle
- Community gardens downtown
- Hanging basket competition
- Beautifying storefronts
- Council has been progressive and supportive to one member
- Block parties
- Not to separate art, commerce, community
- Needs to be a facilitator -group or person
- Phi Beta Kappa – sorority –Day of the Arts; every other year; pay \$10.00, have tea and go on studio tours; Mickey is contact point for this; once over 230 people on one day; Pat Craig is another contact

- Filberg Festival – million people a year

Topic: Utilizing the Waterfront

Convener:

Dialogue Participants: Darrin Olson Jason Penner Joan Frohn-Nielsen
 MaryAnn Washington David Whitworth Bernadette Wyton
 Lawrence McLean Dave J.F. Myrna McFadden
 Ron

Note taker: Darrin Olson/Lawrence McLean

Summary of Discussion:

- Plywood Mill -only to used for/cannot be used for homes
- Beautify the waterfront area –we don't appreciate what we have; take care and maintain the community; take responsibility for what natural beauty we have
- Preserve/conservate the area as parkland
- Work in partnership with industry
- Ferry shuttle as a link between Harbour Quay to Victoria Quay/Clutesi Marina
- Utilize the waterfront for diverse uses –increase access; develop the beach area; opposite side development; develop Harbour Quay as parkland; bridge over the river
- Stirling Field proposals -Farmers Market
- Work in partnership with successes of Hupacasath
- Connect the waterways with existing railway before transport trucks take it over
- Beautify the city -the potential is here with minimal effort; step by step -each year build on each other
- Serious planning behind
- Every area moving in different directions -need cohesion between sectors
- "Get the People on Your Side" -how? –get the City Council involved
- Champions of these topics -see David Witworth -go idea
- Relocating Plywood Mill –trail from Harbour Quay to Polly's to China Creek –similar to Nanaimo waterfront
- Hotel, marina or RV Site on plywood site
- Linkage problems
- Deep sea Harbour and commercial site
- Cruise Ship –possibility –Campbell River model; what do we do if a cruise ship comes? What things are in place?
- Develop more areas on the waterfront
- Need a proper proposal -funds are there!
- Problems with separate governing bodies and whom to speak to
- Hupacasath model for proposals referred to
- Waterfront developed for long term purposes
- Estuary/Lady Rose/Industry/Restaurants/Sanctuary/Bear watching -How do we utilize everything?
- Partnership with industry, environment and capitalize on it!
- Celebrate the diversity of the waterfront
- Can we build on Johnston Road/Hupacasath success?
- Western Diversity; NETB -Nuu-chah-nulth Economic Development Group
- Harbour Quay utilized as a springboard for tours around the Alberni Valley – Arrowsmith, Water Bombers, West coast, East coast, trails, kayaking, McLean's Mill, Cathedral Grove, etc.
- Step by step -needs to be part of a city vision/plan
- Where are we going to be in 20 years? How do we work together? Build on the central theme/vision -plan every year

- Beautify waterfront!
- Jurisdictional issue

Topic: Artisans Village

Convener: Sylvia Springer

Dialogue Participants: Mickey Smeele Dave Parsons Joel Graboski
 Tom Hall Mindy Cal

Note taker: Dave Parsons

Summary of Discussion:

- Motivation to be here
- Musicians, artists, sculptors, painters
- Create a place for showing, meeting, being exposed
- Consultant from Chemanius, should we find him and get him to help. Did art highway route up island
- Art tourism opportunities
- Learn from Chemanius hotel and theatre complex
- Port hold contests and paint ins i.e. Moss Street
- Contest that makes a boulevard up Argyle Street displaying winning sculptures; leading Quay visitors to 3rd Avenue and beyond
- Water shuttle in the inner harbour
- Community building for renting and sharing opportunities/studios -glass blowing, painting, etc. Granville Island. Concentrated art discovery –exposure for artists.
- OldPort–develop a home for the arts
- Cutting storefront taxes and bylaws that inhibit development
- Store signage
- Do things that don't cost
- Cut down on traffic, inhibit car use to create a pedestrian based area
- Architecture contests - global invitation; create an alternate concept area
- Predetermined space - Windsong in Vancouver
- Intentional community opportunities
- Co-op space
- Bays attached to the train station -talk to Heritage Society to have them help
- See it for the first time
- Tie ins with Bamfield -learn from them
- Bring children via government funding for schooling
- Tangible steps -open a business related and be a central figure for meeting
- Argyle - as the Art Culture -Rollin, Capitol, Movie theatre
- Nucleus from 3rd to Argyle towards the Kingsway
- Lights on the trees on Argyle -L.E.D. donation to the town lighting
- Taxation on improved visual of buildings leads to no improvement
- Remove Artisan from the title of Artisan Village -call it Old Port Village
- Where is City Hall on this?
- Strict mindless following of paper words -by-lawing any imagination to death
- Foot traffic
- Networking
- We're talking now/not the car world past –less car traffic
- We need champions
- Get the car clubs to help
- "If I'm going to stay here I've got to have something here"

- information centre
- mapping
- tourist loop signed out
- one way driving
- place to pull off and look at a map on the highway
- take ownership for the highway
- branding -call the highway "Dogwood Drive"
- Bring consultant from Chemanius
- have sculpture competition on annual basis and use sculptures (donated) to enhance streets of Port Alberni
- develop Artisan's Centre -the city as a village that encourages artists
- requires -cut back taxes for starting artists, change bylaws re: signage/living space; provide intentional community opportunities
- use industrial bays at train stations as artists enclave -particularly on market days
- school of Art
- pave road to Bamfield and tie in with activities between communities
- have lights on 3rd Avenue
- drop term "artisan" from the equation -the need is to encourage artists as business people
- encourage: foot traffic areas; LED lights (to lower costs for city); information centre(s) in appropriate locations; locator map(s) for distribution to visitors/tourists; improved signage to localities such as Harbour Quay; roadside map/centre; better PR for the road around Cameron Lake to our "clean" mills

Closing

Participants gathered for closing comments. Everyone felt that the evening had been worthwhile and did not want the process to stop. Outlook 20/20 will be in touch with participants to let them know 'next steps'.

Phase 3: Invitation

THE PORT ALBERNI WATERFRONT

In the future, the City will feature the waterfront as an attraction for residents and tourists.

Outlook 20/20 invites you to a
PUBLIC FORUM
to discuss your ideas for the
future of our city's waterfront.

Stakeholders in the waterfront will be invited to take part in a constructive sharing of ideas.

DATE: Thursday, October 13th
TIME: 7:00 pm (Registration – 6:30 pm)
LOCATION: Echo Centre, Cedar Rooms



BRING YOUR IDEAS!

Last year Outlook 20/20 held a series of Open Space Sessions to discuss the future of the Alberni Valley. Based on the discussion at the meetings, a preliminary vision for the Waterfront has been developed. If you are interested in reading the vision prior to the meeting, you can pick up a copy at Echo Centre, City Hall, Women's Centre or Port Boat House.

Waterfront Vision

The future of the Port Alberni Waterfront: the community's view

Visions and challenges identified by the participants in the Outlook 20/20 public sessions

20/20 Vi'sions

The waterfront is a critical asset that enhances the city's profile

In the future . . .

. . . people will come to live in Port Alberni *because* of its waterfront. The city has followed the example of other cities who created a memorable theme for their community. Developments at Victoria and Harbour Quays are linked. Public access is extended to the whole waterfront for recreational, residential, commercial and industrial uses. Old industrial facilities are preserved and become a feature.

The waterfront is a community asset - for those who live here

In the future . . .

...the city depends more on diversified small industry than on a single large employer. Our population changes as Baby Boom retirees move to the west coast. Tourism becomes a larger part of our economic base. These changes are reflected in the waterfront.

As large industries close and release industrial land it is used for diversified development. A mill site accommodates a boat servicing industry, commercial space, high-density residential, recreational areas and tourist facilities.

There are places on the waterfront where beaches are reclaimed and parks created. There are annual waterfront-based events, building on the Salmon Festival. For example the Port Alberni sea kayak races attract local competitors and visitors from outside.

The new waterfront includes vastly increased public access. Walkways, bridges, and perhaps pedestrian ferries, connect Harbour and Victoria Quays. As the nature of the industries on the water changes this access is incorporated in the terms of future development permits.

The improvements extend eventually along the river and across the inlet. The walkways in the waterfront are an integral part of the extended trail network from the Cowichan Valley to Comox. A side trail crosses the Somass River and provides limited access to the bird sanctuary and interpretive sites.

Business, First Nations and all levels of government work together to develop this community asset with an attractive theme, in a planned manner to the mutual benefit of all.

The waterfront is a focus for tourism

In the future . . .

...the city's tourist industry exploits the new improved waterfront as increased access is provided. The new facilities and the scenery persuade people to stop here on the way to the west coast, and some innovative features attract the tourist.

- The city's industrial history is celebrated along the walkways. Many ex-industrial sites are partially preserved as living museums. Operating industries on the waterfront provide limited tourist access - seeing this exposure as a benefit to their business.
- Harbour tours and/or the ferry ride between the Quays include interpretive industrial heritage commentaries. There are extended dinner cruises down the inlet.
- Another cruise from the new harbour features the "Lady Rose West-Coast Ship Museum" at Kildonan and the new Marine Park at San Mateo Bay integrating the tourist experience with Barkley Sound.
- New tourist information facilities in strategic places on the waterfront include the Tsunami Interpretive Centre. The refrain "Visit our waterfront" is a tourist-marketing theme.
- Several circular tours are available – some extend beyond the valley. It becomes possible to take the walkway and/or a boat from Victoria Quay to Harbour Quay, or to the new marina and hotel complex at the old plywood mill site, and then return to North Port by train.
- The city is a scheduled stop for coastal mini eco-cruise ships. The way that Port Alberni has cleaned up its industrial heritage and made an asset of the history is a big feature of the cruise. Local eco-tourism becomes an important business.
- Shared ownership condominiums, hotels and resorts are developed and some are associated with the new marina facilities. This brings tourists into town and the shareowners from all over the country spend time in the city. A similar shared ownership scheme is implemented for cruising boats owned in part by investors across North America.

First-class marine facilities make PA center of boating on the west coast

In the future ...

...the City's economic diversity is enhanced by the addition of industries and businesses designed to exploit the new waterfront's ability to support improved recreational boating.

Expanding on its reputation as a sports fishing venue, Port Alberni becomes the place of choice to launch trailered boats for exploration of the west coast. The new facilities also attract larger cruising boats that previously came only as far as Barkley Sound.

Expanded marina space was the beginning, but boat servicing and construction shops, haul-out facilities; chandleries and other commercial ventures arise to support it. This caters to the local boater and the tourist. But it also supports those who stay here, in the new hotels associated with the marinas, for a boating holiday. Rental and charter services abound.

The new facilities are publicized in cruising and marina guides -places where Port Alberni did not feature prominently in the past.

As with other new waterfront development this new industry balances marine tourism with ecological considerations. This creates showpiece facilities designed to the best eco standards including boatyard s that recycle all waste from boat-repair, adequate pump-out sewage facilities, eco friendly services and products. This eco-designed boating center becomes a "best practices" model for the industry and makes Port Alberni famous.

Most marine center development occurs on ex-industrial waterfront. The old Plywood Mill is the starting point. The city resolves the issues related to the covenant on that land and, perhaps with the participation of the Tseshaht First Nation, developers begin the new facilities on that site.

Challenges

The vision will only be realized if:

In the present ••

- the city publicly articulates its belief that the waterfront is a critical part of the city's future. This may require the passage of a piece of legislation or a declaration of intent. It will require some kind of plan, separate from but integrated with, the city's overall plan. It may require a special board or commissioner to guide the vision over time. It will require long-term commitment and frequent public input.

It is critical that the city gives the diverse development of the waterfront the same kind of attention that is traditionally assigned to attracting major single-industry developments. This will inevitably include some funding.

In the present ••

- the business community recognizes that it is in their best interests to support new waterfront development wherever there is direct business benefit and in some cases where the benefits are indirect. The Chamber of commerce must be on-board and involved but individual businesses must also support the vision.

In the present •••

- the many different jurisdictions who have influence and responsibility for the waterfront communicate their objectives and let each other, and the public, know where they can and can't contribute. These jurisdictions include (but are not limited to), the City; the Regional District; the First Nations; the Port Authority and related Federal agencies; The Provincial Government; business organizations (Chamber of Commerce, Uptown merchants, etc.); major industries; fishers; eco groups; recreational groups; interested special events groups (Salmon Festival, Tall Ships, etc.) and right-of-way holders.

It may be necessary to establish some overall communications process among these players or perhaps a waterfront redevelopment body.

In the present •••

- the development plan includes both North and South Port.

In the present ••

- the issues relating to the covenant on the Plywood Mill site are resolved so that it can become the model project.

In the present •••

- work begins on funding the various projects in a private/public partnership and First Nations are invited to participate with their funds if they deem it worthwhile.

In the present ••

- Public participation is encouraged and maintained over the long term.

Open Space Proceedings

**Albemi Valley Outlook 20/20
Public Forum on the Waterfront
October 13, 2005**

In attendance:

Albany, Sam	Gunn, Robert	Parfitt, Dewayne
Berg, Richard	Haltrich, Natalie	Parsons, Dave
Blake, Doug	Hartigan, Richard	Patterson, Ike
Blake, Paul	Hillman, Sharon	Pazitch, Alexandra
Bradley, Stephen	Hines, George	Pedersen, June
Brett, Donna	Holmes, Joe	Penner, Jason
Brett, Gary	Hutcheson, Ken	Phillips, Vern
Caman, Mary	Jarrett, Dave	Plathoff, Marcus
Carter, Mike	Jasken, Carolyn	Ramsey, Rebecca
Chase, Joanne	Jelinek, Jerri	Robins, Stacey
Chopra, Hira	Johnson, Blake	Ruttan, Bonnie
Cicon, Guy	Johnson, Rhonda	Simpson, Carli
Cole, Rob	Jorgenson, Ron	Smith, Ron
Cote, Brian	Kenny, Scott	Smith, Scott
Creighton, Jim	Kingston, Theresa	Smith, Shirley
Curtis, Corey	Kirkpatrick, Gerry	Springer, Sylvia
Day, Pam	Kraus, Kathy	Stern, David
Diotte, Rob	Kregg, Eileen	Stirzacker, Colin
Douglas, John	Langille, Randy	Strong, S.
Duncan, Craig	Lunney, James	Swann, Gary
Fisher-Bradley, Jen	Mannix, Larry	Tardif, Mike
Frazer, Sue	Manson, Stacey	Thornburgh, Jack
Gaiga, Franco	Martin, Dale	Thrasher, Penn
Galas, Chris	Martin, Don	Van Adrichen, Ted
George, Booke	McKay, Jan	Watson, Ken
George, Karen	McKnight, George	Watts, Jackie
Gillis, Don	McRae, Ken	Whiteman, Kenn
Gillis, Mary	Mellaert, Barb	Whitworth, David
Gortan, Judy	Morgan, Bob	Wiwchar, Andrea
Graboski, Anne	Morgan, Julie	Wyton, Bernadette
Graboski, Joel	Morton, Gail	Wyton, Keith
Granneman, Rick	Nicholson, Norm	Zamura, Chris (sp)
Grist, Hugh	Pagani, Peter	

TOPIC: Waterfront Vision - What is right, missing, unworkable?

CONVENER: **NOTETAKER:** Scott Kenny

DIALOGUE PARTICIPANTS:

- A commission for the waterfront to manage and be responsible to the public – no closed meetings
- Liked that the vision was developed by grassroots
- Beachfront idea good and boating
- Was positive and shows a good future for Port Alberni
- Beaches and parks – reclaiming so we can swim like we did in the past

- Keep cleaning up the water
- Develop walkways in industry areas as opportunities
- Use of plywood site for cruise ships

What is missing?

- How wide/deep is waterfront area?
- Possibilities for south port waterfront use and a coordinated plan for development
- Better and clear definition of 'ecological' improvements
- More plan specifics – not much outside of the Plywood site
- Design and zoning guidelines for % of commercial/residential - more integration of uses
- Should be public all the way along
- Residential along waterfront
- Not enough recognition for continued industrial development i.e. oil/gas development
- More residential development high density outside the waterfront zone
- Should extend north to Paper Mill Dam and south to China Creek
- What areas are available on shore and inland
- Allocation of parking for future development

Unworkable

- Funding (commercial, public, private) may not allow vision to proceed
- Keeping politics out of decision making process

TOPIC: Waterfront Vision – What is right, missing, unworkable?

CONVENER: **NOTETAKER:** Rhonda Johnson

DIALOGUE PARTICIPANTS: Doug Blake, Blake Johnson, Rhonda Johnson, Jason Penner, Dewayne Parfitt, Ken McRae, Cindy Solda

What's right?

- Different use than right now
- Fits well with City's current vision
- Likes that it includes mixed use e.g. industrial and tourism
- Interpretive centre idea is good
- T'c centre was discussed at Maritime Heritage - fits
- Consider mini tourism centre for information

What's missing?

- Neptune Group ask them to be visible in the community maybe with T'I Centre
- Like that we can see mill operating – more accessible – plus interpretive centre – celebrate our heritage - enlarge plaque of first export centre
- Reopen the mine and use interpretive centre - add interpretive signs
- Share more information on heritage. Demographics - vs . age - interest in heritage
- Horse drawn carriages around harbour front
- Trick is to get Norske/Cascadia... to buy in
- Missing – consistency in ownership of water front
- Port Authority is critical to success
- Tell the world we have the ocean e.g. Sea to Sea to Sea cycling Parksville to Port Alberni to Tofino – signage steam train from Parksville
- Bats in Barclay Sound don't come to Port Alberni - tourism strategy
- Missing - needs a tourism strategy for the valley
- Importance of the railroad coming in
- If covenant off, development will come

- Need multi use residential in uptown and link to Island Highway – creates critical mass - services for residents and boat tourists
- Promote idea of water view
- Need new industry – lost a lot – e.g. deep water port
- We're not serving the marine industry – e.g. need a lift to take boats out and service them – huge potential
- Connection of waterfront to trails and arts - and tell the world
- Work on better relations with first nations
- Point out the dynamic nature of river meet:ig ocean – salmon – estuary – the crucible of life – water – a Rain Festival – celebrate the water
- Take the walkway idea further – where and exactly will it be – e.g. tax incentives for industry, water taxi's, one way glass into Mills
- Artisan area - craftsmanship workshops

What won't work?

- It can all work – need government help – so must be prepared
- Keep it world class
- Imagery is excellent - trains, steam
- Theme it

What needs to be done?

- Water sports festival - kayaking race
- Triathlon – running on Log Train Trail, kayak on lake, cycle up Ktisuksis and Mill
- Harbour Festival

TOPIC: Waterfront Vision - What is right, missing, unworkable?

CONVENER: **NOTETAKER:** ?

DIALOGUE PARTICIPANTS: Doug Blake, Blake Johnson, Rhonda Johnson, Jason Penner, Dewayne Parfitt, Ken McRae, Cindy Solda

- This is the crucible of life – rain, rivers, estuary, where's the next cup of clean water coming from
- Harbour Festival

Missing?

- Walkway to the point
- Heritage and industry is a big thing
- Enlarge the plaque where the first lumber export took place
- Open the mine - interpretive centre
- Make sure Tall ship 08 happens
- Greater emphasis on sharing the history of the waterfront
- This will work well with demographic changes
- Horse and carriage rides
- Consistency in ownership of industrial site so we can talk to them
- Sea to Sea to Sea Big Bike Ride
- Appropriate signage
- steam train to run from Parksville to Port Alberni
- tourism strategy and marketing organization
- strategy for the valley
- Eco tourism
- Importance of the railroad
- Money is missing

- Multi family residential in the uptown area from 5th on down
- It's all water view property
- Better relationship with first nations
- Lack of industrial base
- Deep water port
- *we're not servicing the marine industry - no service here - Port Authority working on this
- ensure the trails are connected
- How will the walkway go around the mill? "
- Glass to inner workings of the mill
- More promotion/sailboats
- Imagery/theme will be phenomenal
- World class

Unworkable

- Nothing
- Attitude determines your altitude
- Pure waterfront walkway may be difficult due to industry

New ideas

- Triathlon - canoe/mountain biking

TOPIC: Waterfront Vision -What is right, missing, unworkable?

CONVENER: **NOTETAKER :** Norm Nicholson

DIALOGUE PARTICIPANTS:

- Airport
- APD is in the way - it's between the Plywood's and town
- First Nations lands - joint venture
- Industrial park - boats, etc.
- To fill all these ideas in our current space - have to expand our access - down canal or other side of canal.
- Float planes - weather
- Money?!
- Business plan to justify spending money on development
- First Nations property
- Rath Trevor here in Port Alberni
- Shared vision of what should happen - use as community plan
- What is right?
- Nature specific advantage - we have to take advantage of this
- Interest is there
- Best natural harbour
- China and India - Asia is our future
- Gateway to the East
- Canal with more development - development down the canal

TOPIC: Waterfront Vision -What is right, missing, unworkable?

CONVENER: Rob Cole **NOTETAKER:** Karen George

DIALOGUE PARTICIPANTS: Natalie, George, Jim, June, Jan, Gerry, Corey, Don, Karen, Brooke

What we like

- Public access to waterfront - pathways (not necessarily along the waterfront) - not just isolated locations
- Bridge across to bird sanctuary
- Beach access
- Time share condos/hotels

What's missing?

- Condos on the hillside overlooking the harbour
- Change zoning - give tax and service incentives
- Road access from highway to Harbour Quay

What won't work?

- Hotel - too hard to compete with existing hotels built at much lower costs

TOPIC: Waterfront Vision - What is right, missing, unworkable?

CONVENER: Craig **NOTETAKER:** Carmi

DIALOGUE PARTICIPANTS: Randy, Eileen, Mary, David, Carmi, Colin, Craig

Outlook 20120 vision – what is right

- R&R refits – 95% right
- Problem getting decision makers on board
- Working waterfront #1
- Historical
- What is definition of waterfront – 1st Avenue is boundary
- Harbour Commission study - less demand for water base fuel
- Pollution at pulp mill - effluent controls high
- Must be viable for heavy industry
- Keep grove of trees, Argyle more suitable for commercial and residential - enhance site - artisans, tourists
- Shops - boardwalk between road and trees
- Encourage residential at Dennis Johnson site
- Biggest group using waterfront is boaters – offer choice for service – increase traffic
- Pedestrian overpass
- Parking issue is important
- Missed focus what does Port Alberni really want? - vision is short sighted
- Redevelop Somass site - can go up as well as down
- Focus - recreation
- No commercial boating in Barclay Sound
- Tourism - make people want to stop - sport fishing
- People fishing - Quay needs services i.e. drugstore
- Keep the trees

TOPIC: Waterfront Vision – What is right, missing, unworkable?

CONVENER: Pamela Day **NOTETAKER:** Pamela Day

DIALOGUE PARTICIPANTS:

What's right?

- Waterfront activities

- Love the idea of opening up the waterfront to diverse activity
- Walk to work
- Total public access to the waterfront
- Linking the Quay's (ferries)
- Pedestrian friendly
- Market i.e. mini Coombs
- Trails on both sides of the estuary
- Limited access to the sanctuary
- Tsunami interpretive centre
- Conversion of industrial site/tourist access

What's missing?

- Wheelchair/handicap access to everything - wide enough to pass
- Pedestrian friendly at night and well lit
- Expanded market - arts and crafts
- Eat and sit outside of the rain
- Family, children friendly
- Band shell/music
- Symphony in the harbour/Shakespeare in the park
- Eating areas/coffee, etc.
- Good hotel
- Restore the Somass Hotel/Spa - massages
- Commercial take place back off the water so pedestrian area is a buffer
- Rentals canoes, kayaks
- Housing should include a mix of senior, low income and not high end
- Bicycle rentals/white bikes (free)
- Bikepaths/skating
- Use of industrial material as art
- Lots of green instead of concrete
- Air access
- Fish theme – salmon like Edmonton bull

What's unworkable?

- As we increase the boating we don't congest the harbour to the canoes and kayaks
- We have a deep sea port that we should encourage its use like bringing something in
- What are the priorities?
- Planning so the policy and framework are in place
- Festivals can be rolled out quickly - First Nations
- Set aside the trees and other key areas
- Volunteers to clean up the garbage - beach area
- Link the Quay's so that it is a whole
- Getting the group together
- Identify opportunities for community involvement and publish it
- Farmer's Market to be expanded with far broader criteria
- Involve youth
- Hire summer students to work on
- A stage for teens to use – for music, drama, skateboards, salsa
- Learn from other communities like Campbell River/Sidney/Ladysmith
- 3rd Avenue/Argyle to be inclusive
- Walkway between two Quay's
- Marketing/clean up the whole City

- Incentive to open stores in South Port
- Halfway between the two groups there needs to be a square or larger space to provide access from 3rd to go to either Quay
- Fountain, shade, collect people - so you don't need to walk all the way

TOPIC: Waterfront Vision - What is right, missing, unworkable?

CONVENER: **NOTETAKER:** Rebecca Ramsey

DIALOGUE PARTICIPANTS:

Right

- Waterfront activities/festivals, opening it up to the community and tourists - best resource
- Walking to work
- Total public access
- Linking Quays
- Little ferries – like in Victoria
- Trails, ferries, etc.
- Adding tourists

Priorities

- Planning ahead
- Learn from other communities that have been where we are
- Walkway

Ideas

- way between 2 Quays – have a larger open square (park, band shell, etc.)
- access in and out to walkway
- lots of business ideas once more people come to live and visit
- trails need to be cleaned up - too much garbage
- Cautions – congested water activity – need to plan activity and make safe
- Include up 3rd and Argyle in plan
- Research other communities that been where we are - Campbell River, Selkirk waterway in Victoria
- Clean up creeks
- Get youth involved
- Getting groups involved for community participation
- Gateway and signage to city to be improved to welcome to waterfront
- Create a place for people/tourists to gather for festivals
- Waterfront/float plane access
- Lots of green space/landscaping - maintain the beauty
- Fish theme for marketing
- Mixed housing (lower to higher end) not just high end
- Boat rentals as business idea
- Picnic/swimming public beach needed
- Farmer's Market - like Mini Coombs
- Swan lake like walkway ideas across river at estuary so people can visit but keep the birds
- Wheelchair accessible trails
- Nanaimo - Matoe park idea
- Keep buildings to a certain level so it doesn't block view
- Pedestrian friendly in daytime and night time – lighting and shops that are open

- Expand on kid friendly play space
- Symphony Splash idea
- Expanding businesses along water - eating particularly
- Band shell
- Fireworks, festivals
- Proper biking trails - roller blading safe too
- Waterfront restaurant that you can boat up to

TOPIC: Waterfront Vision - What is right, missing, unworkable?

CONVENER: **NOTETAKER:**

DIALOGUE PARTICIPANTS:

- The waterfront is important and the focus is key
- Missing - need for linkage - like ferry between two Quays
- Creative fundraising
- Improve the built environment
- Improve the family friendliness of the waterfront
- Improve the visual of the waterfront - add colour to buildings
- Visual linkage
- Washroom at Victoria Quay
- Capitalizing on the waterfront
- Creating a future vision
- Overall document
- Unifying the vision/linkage
- Heritage focus as linkage - Mclean Mill, etc.
- Having all the players working in the same direction
- Container port
- Floating destination - restaurant, garden
- Include west side of the inlet
- Plan a waterfront boardwalk
- Keep the trees at the root of Argyle

TOPIC: Waterfront Vision - What is right, missing, unworkable?

CONVENER: **NOTETAKER:** Jen Fisher-Bradley

DIALOGUE PARTICIPANTS:

Right

- Ferry between the 2 Quays
- Co-ordinate with transit - shuttle bus up Johnston and Argyle
- Transit pass, hop on - hop off
- Separate from normal scheduled system
- Smaller vehicles, more flexible
- Demand will pick up during year to local, linked shopping areas
- Include ravines
- Creative funding - Port Alberni solution - city, region, Port Authority, etc. - and grassroots focused task groups
- Swale Rock building owner, heritage feeling all space rented - Cormorant Block - keep beautifying the waterfront

- Hoping the park stays - crows nest
- Family friendly, ending cars at Quay
- Colourful storefronts - this would look good in pictures and in promotional materials
- Theme, funky older buildings – like in the Old Quarter in Nanaimo
- Industrial sites
- How do we get buy in from the Regional District?
- Alberni Valley needs to be included
- Can we borrow ideas from Qualicum and Nanaimo?
- New things in OCP is development guidelines, permits, renos and new submit plans before construction, can be amended
- People like to see progress, graduate

Missing

- Theme
- Visual impact that carries through
- No place to pee
- More garbage cans
- Float area, restaurants

Right

- Capitalizing on the harbour
- Size and potential
- Future vision
- Shuttle ferry
- This group

Missing

- Unification of theme
- Navigation
- College
- Container port that links to railroad
- Floating restaurants
- Boardwalk

Unworkable

- Nothing is impossible
- Need more education
- No rail link
- Limited amount of space but we can use other side of the inlet
- Any oil and gas development
- Open net fish farms

TOPIC: Waterfront Vision - What is right, missing, unworkable?

CONVENER: David Whitworth

NOTETAKER:

DIALOGUE PARTICIPANTS: Chris Galas, Chris Zamura, Mike Carter, Ike Patterson, Rick Granneman, Ted Van Adrichen

- Public opinion may be too fragmented
- Ideas need to be 'sold'
- Make what we have work e.g. Harbour Quay and signs
- Can't find PA on the internet
- City and Port Authority have a strategic plan

- Have to put walkway with Quays – may not all be waterfront – worth doing even if partial
- Used to be a water taxi
- Tours - destination hotel needed
- Things will change with economy and population
- Boating
- Have to create an interest for businesses to invest
- Create one organization - for funding initiatives - has to be a group with 'teeth'
- Need to work at 'big picture'
- Maybe City's role to champion cause - jumpstart it - develop an image
- Maybe making it work for everyone is unrealistic - too many visions

TOPIC: Waterfront Vision – What is right, missing, unworkable?

CONVENER: **NOTETAKER:** Ken Watson

DIALOGUE PARTICIPANTS: Paul Blake, George McKinight, Joe Holmes, Barb Maellart, Ken Watson, Keith Wyton

Right

- Waterfront should be key focus for future of PA (region).
- Mix of recreational, residential, commercial, industrial needed
- Right to retain authenticity of waterfront heritage at same time as diversifying
- Right to plan more public access to the waterfront
- Right to facilitate/promote more water sports activity on the waterfront

Missing

- Visual representation of how uses would blend on the waterfront
- Vision on how waterfront rail lines will be utilized
- How to accomplish these visions step by step
- Way to convince existing industrial business to buy into increased public use

Unworkable

- Vision for decreasing size of industry of waterfront - over time - need to keep
- Harbour front local industrial traffic how does it not conflict with new and increased public access and commercial and residential use.

TOPIC: Waterfront Vision – What is right, missing, unworkable?

CONVENER: Julie **NOTETAKER:** Dave Parson

DIALOGUE PARTICIPANTS: Julie, Bob, Kathy, Joel, Mike, Dave, Bernadette

- Good to bring in boats from other places
- Avoid the road by taking the boat route
- Make the waterfront what we want and it will attract others
- Already a highlight of the town
- Don't over develop it, do over residential
- Free parking; keep it available to everyday people
- Winnipeg zoo was free – now charges – lost % of their attendance. Tourists are only here for awhile
- Plywood plant covenants? What's going on?
- Tsunami? Don't build right on the water (hotels)
- Is river end more risk – big investment items should be up and back or built to take it

- Safety, tsunami - not risking people
- Interpretive Centre shows how to be safe – show our care to make a safe place
- Marine research centre - Polly Point's building is that a university outreach centre
- Join Bamfield Marine Centre
- Beach? Where is it?
- Next meeting put the town map on a slide for new people
- Work on alternative highway to bring people to our waterfront – restricted volume
- Bamfield-bad road
- Construct West Coast trail extension to port
- Will younger people come for better lifestyle option
- Toxicity in inlet-pollution
- Sewer treatment plant right on the waterfront – longer term find a better place .
Tsunami mess in the future. Bad smell for our board walks.
- How do we cope with fish plant overloading sewer plant. Technologies? To deal with future
- How do we fund environmental clean up
- Heritage issue of pollution legacy - start linking responsibilities right now
- Marine research into reducing toxic remediation sites using us a site for a test bed
- Is enviro effects monitoring at present – i.e. fibre mat. Still a lot of issues from the past - municipal sewage, mills, etc.
- Take a long term vision of fixing things but deal with important things first
- Quarry? Blasting is that going to be a drawback for the water front and quality of life
- Sewer needs to be addressed before you develop
- Wetlands and marshes to clean up enviro mess
- Priority to learn about Plywood plant
- Small industry boat places sound good
- Granville Island works very well
- Show off the working waterfront
- Tax break for businesses who play along with the theme. Cap on taxes.
- Start with what we have. Build by links
- Begin the commitment
- On the walkways put lumber the other way so they don't cup-up - it's hazardous
- Quality. Safe work. Standardized links

TOPIC: Waterfront Vision -What is right, missing, unworkable?

CONVENER: **NOTETAKER:** Corey Curtis

DIALOGUE PARTICIPANTS:

- Public access to beach
- Tunnel to other side of waterfront
- Walkway connecting beach to current walkway
- Old plywood site has noise issues
- Old airport site have condo's
- Increase lease on forest companies
- Beach access to Polly's Point
- Pathway access from paper mill
- 20120 take ideas to 2012 - 100¹ anniversary of North and South Port
- Small cruise ships to City

- Draw to city is a draw to waterfront
- Fishing wharf for public
- High density living - between 3rd and Harbour Road
- Brochure (Chamber) on artisans in the valley - Day of the Arts expanded on
- An outlet at Naesggard's

TOPIC: Waterfront Vision – What is right, _ missing, unworkable?

CONVENER: Bonnie Ruttan **NOTETAKER:** Joanne Chase

DIALOGUE PARTICIPANTS: Joanne Chase, Gail Morton, Judy Gortan, Kenn Whiteman, Jackie Watts, Sam Albany, Sheryl Strong, Bernadette Wyton

- Keep idea of theme for the waterfront
- Possibility of a Spanish theme - Don Pedro, Santiago rebuild
- Link First Nations and Spanish Themes
- Have the architecture reflect the 2 themes
- A restaurant in the ship
- Whiskey Dock in Totino - businesses on ground level, residences on the top level
- Boardwalks - popular
- Trails through town - along tracks
- Heritage walk - linking old industrial buildings, heritage homes
- Biketrails – out to Papermill Dam
- First Nations Village at foot of Johnston (like K'San - Smithers) - sounds, music, smoked salmon, dance
- Telescopes to view across the river
- Cultural and educational
- Small boats from Harbour Quay to foot of Johnston
- First Nations restaurant/pub
- Limited access to other side of the river ??? like West Coast Trail (limited #'s). Mt. Washington's raised boardwalks through meadows
- Theme Guides - through sanctuary - exclusive/limited access
- Chookwa – big canoes – replicas – expand
- Jump off point - Burial caves - keeps sacred - don't enter; Cougar Annie's Gardens (Tofino), Broken Islands
- Change our name to Alberni Valley – Port Alberni has bad rep as industrial/polluted community
- Entry to Valley (by Coombs Candy) a huge rebuilt Spanish ship – intriguing entry (note Nanaimo's permanent ships at each entry into city)
- *Always make conservation/preservation #1 – we don't want to lose our setting
- Welcome figures along Johnson (Bamfield) raised - to be very visible - so they'd have a presence
- Reface the stores!
- Carve rock face at the S curve on the hump

TOPIC: Waterfront Vision - What is right, missing, unworkable?

CONVENER: Bonnie Ruttan **NOTETAKER:**

DIALOGUE PARTICIPANTS: Joanne Chase, Gail Morton, Judy Gortan, Kenn Whiteman, Jackie Watts, Sam Albany, Sheryl Strong, Bernadette Wyton

- Bike and walking trails

- Boardwalk with bike lane
- More parking
- Native village with cultural centre - next to the bridge at Victoria Quay
- At the Quay's – boat rides
- Restaurant in ship
- Don Pedro replica
- Native paddlers taking tours around harbour
- Highlight history and tours leaving from the Quay

Missing

- Attractive looking stores
- Replace store fronts
- Make area colourful - flowers, new canopies
- Viewing decks along river
- First nations restaurant
- Totem poles
- Historical tours provided by first nations interpretive centre
- Parking
- Uninterrupted access to water

Concerns

- Protection of sacred places and environmentally sensitive areas

Submitted items:

Sorry I have to leave for another meeting - wanted to add the following thoughts

- Great start
- Like the focus on heritage and interpretation
- Move the museum to the waterfront - hub for industrial heritage and other attractions
- Definite support for treating waterfront as one contiguous stretch linking Johnston to Argyle – don't focus on just one area

BREAK

TOPIC: What are the priorities, needs to happen and first steps

CONVENER: Sylvia NOTETAKER: Gail Morton

DIALOGUE PARTICIPANTS: Jack, Gail, Scott, Gary, Jen, Stephen, Randy

Priorities:

- Get artists to "paint us a picture" of the vision, involve architects, perhaps give us a few examples
- Obtain support, get more people involved, get governing bodies support.
- BC Hydro beautification plan helped Qualicum
- City needs to encourage water conservation (water conservation a priority)
- Identify sources of support
- Easements
- Diverse business development and concept of micro credit
- Negotiate re environmentally friendly paper product
- Boaters, have consumer choice to increase marine traffic

- How to get the boardwalk stated, continued linked, do design first, cost estimates, grants for the waterfront, present to city(Regional District etc) starting with one thing will have a domino effect on the other priorities.
- Paint the picture
- To make change you need support, getting old school and young blood together this is the dialogue
- Governing bodies, city and port are partners on a study, port lands and possible uses, building block, micro credit, diversity, cultures, growth through understanding different cultures
- Environmental audit
- Consumer choices(for boating consumers)
- Public awareness, brainstorming sessions in the school
- Assess available and unavailable ware access, get Norske to the table
- Trails, boardwalk and easements, walkway as a catalyst, broken into manageable, fundable pieces.
- Marine navigation School, floating restaurants, gardens and markets
- Wind farms.

Steps:

- Get the rest of town involved, brainstorm in schools, get children involved
- Environmental audit
- Integrate boardwalk and easement

TOPIC:What are the priorities, needs to happen and first steps

CONVENER: Sylvia

NOTETAKER: Jack Thornburgh

DIALOGUE PARTICIPANTS: Jack, Gail, Scott, Gary, Jen, Stephen, Randy

Priorities:

- Need to get artists and architects involved: visual picture of integrated waterfront
- Get support and focus groups going on a few specifics, such as a boat works, boatyard
- Save Harbourview Park as a scenic focal point and essential green space.
- Conserve the wildness of the estuary opposite Victoria Quay
- Emphasize water conservation in all development: low-flush toilets, native plants, grey water systems etc.
- Extend Harbour Quay walkway all the way down past Maritime Museum by getting easements through the industrial properties
- Micro credit (borrowing for small business)
- Environmentally friendly paper products from our mills
- Clean up the fibre mat in the inlet near mills
- More choice in boat traffic
- Brainstorming sessions in the schools: those kids will inherit the town.
- Environmental audit of the whole harbour area to know where we're starting from
- Fund a study to decide what grants we might apply for -for infrastructure \$.

TOPIC:What are the priorities, needs to happen and first steps

CONVENER: Craig

NOTETAKER: Karen George

DIALOGUE PARTICIPANTS: Natalie, Corey, George, Jane, Jan, Gerry, Don, Karen, Brooke

Priorities:

- Communication, too many bureaucrats? They need the same vision.

- 5 year plan
- financial - problems borrowing from large institutions in P.A.
- what is the starting point
- look for a community to model ourselves after(with respect to organization, planning and funding recruitment

What needs to happen:

- bring groups together (Business, First Nations, residents
- proper planning –5 year plan
- another crossing of Roger Creek ,
- economic window -economic planning as well as issue planning
- a rout to Comox Valley(ie. Create a circle route through P.A.) to take advantage of the influx of air traffic there and Mt. Washington influx

What are the first steps:

- a good plan
- funding sources

Other ideas

- Fisherman's Wharf, summer music school and floating stage.

TOPIC: What are the priorities, needs to happen and first steps

CONVENER: Craig NOTETAKER: Corey Curtis

DIALOGUE PARTICIPANTS: Natalie, Corey, George, Jane, Jan, Gerry, Don, Karen, Brooke

- Financial structure
- Have a vision/plan
- Need major help from everyone
- Get the goals planned
- Bring big business together
- Get all players together to plan
- Advertise/promote
- Revenue source from special events
- Use schools in summer for special events
- Using examples from other communities
- 10th Ave crossing linking south and north Port (also needed re Tsunami Evacuation

TOPIC: What are the priorities, needs to happen and first steps

CONVENER: NOTETAKER: Norm Nichol森

DIALOGUE PARTICIPANTS:

Priorities:

- First Nations must be a part of it. Formally invite leaders to discuss with us – letters to leaders
- Convince current waterfront owners, Catalyst, APD, etc. that it is in their best interest to join in as they will be giving up the most.
- Buffer zones between industries and residential
- Money -finance by government of government agencies.

What needs to happen?

- Establish a Waterfront Commission to do this - no politician
- Attract investors to revitalize bottom of Argyle and bottom of Johnston
- Port Authority –consult

TOPIC: What are the priorities, needs to happen and first steps

CONVENER: Bonnie Ruttan NOTETAKER:

DIALOGUE PARTICIPANTS:

- Shaw Cable, Newspaper weekly segments focusing on the vision with updates.
- Develop in stages with overall plan eg. Boardwalk built in stages with sections funded by individuals, organizations, businesses
- Provide incentives for businesses to improve appearance of store front
- Project Facelift – grants to employ people to paint, plant flowers etc
- Community groups and neighbourhood groups take responsibility for public gardens along main roads.

TOPIC: What are the priorities, needs to happen and first steps

CONVENER: NOTETAKER:

DIALOGUE PARTICIPANTS:

- Identify funding for development
- Dialogue with all stakeholders
- Waterfront Park retention
- Preserve/identify historic buildings - Somass Hotel
- Identify industrial road location
- Break vision down to 5 year terms
 - Immediate - poop and scoop
 - Short term
 - Mid term
 - Long term
- Develop Ferry Service
- Public Marina with residential mix
- 5yrs
 - Ferry service Quay to Quay to other side of river, Holme Island
 - Trail development, water edge and greenways, Bird Sanctuary, downtown and parks
 - Plywood site OK to develop
 - Create Harbourfront Commission
 - Preservation of wildlife corridor in AV ??? area.
 - Develop new Waterfront Masterplan
 - Train stop at Johnston Road to create loop with ferry service
 - Pursue new industrial development ie small log sawmill
 - Partner with Eagle Rock development

Action Steps:

- Create plan for seasonal Ferry Service package and get it done (point to point on a schedule).

TOPIC: What are the priorities, needs to happen and first steps

CONVENER: NOTETAKER: Rhonda Johnson

DIALOGUE PARTICIPANTS: Cindy Solda, Ken McRae, Blake Johnson, Rhonda Johnson, Gordon Blake, Jason, Dwayne Parfitt

- Issue: will it become only for the rich? Engage everyone, not to exclude some, not a class system belongs to the community
- Make sure that is a community e.g. not just absentee rich owners – must be community planning and integrating
- Can't be a closed community. Must have community involvement
- Need a Marketing Plan, Tourism Strategy
- Fill in the gaps in the waterfront, need a pathway, part of the planning
- Attract quality people who value the valley -; its outdoor potential – themes
- Rowing community to the valley - facing conflict in Victoria - maybe move here?
- Need a fueling depot on the waterfront
- Need a place to stop a seaplane
- Take Columbia Fuel out of waterfront" Other derelict bldgs spruced up
- Develop the property outside the Barclay - sell it
- Inventory of who owns what property on the waterfront and mark as derelict, sell etc.
- Sell the locals on the Vision – make all PA city spokespeople. How to do that:
 - Education
 - Communication
 - Involvement
 - What's in it for them
 - Everyone need to take ownership of the future eg send out newsletters with tax notices, meet with property owners and include/educate re:vision
- Brand the Uptown - theme focus
- The City with a Heart to The Heart of the Island
- Planner - meet with parties and develop plan
 - city planner or commission someone
- Who takes it on City? Chamber? Stewardship group that represents stakeholders and reports to whom? Whoever handles it must include stakeholders.
- Implement Marine Industry now – attract people now e.g. service the industry . TLC for your boat. Boat concierge.
- Encourage to stay in PA a then day trip to Tofino
- Beautification of the waterfront - more murals
- Restore Somass Hotel
- Signage and shelters - gazebos - interpretive info along the way - interesting facts ids nature, history.
- Maybe the Heart of the West Coast

First Steps:

- Someone has to take the lead "Product Champion ", sell it to everyone
- Need a planner and a seller
- Answer the question "What's in it for me?"
- Need to attract diversity in demographics, youth to seniors
- Tourism Strategy – to sell it to the world.

TOPIC: What are the priorities, needs to happen and first steps

CONVENER: Anne NOTETAKER:

DIALOGUE PARTICIPANTS: Cindy Solda, Ken McRae, Blake Johnson, Rhonda Johnson, Gordon Blake, Jason, Dwayne Parfitt

Priorities:

- Development engages the public – that its not all about the rich folk – that this is OURS - how will we benefit - we need to keep a sense of community integration
- Effective marketing/tourism strategy
- Filling in the gaps - plywood mill, sea cadet park hall, former esso site, used terminal -start by putting things on these sites
- Pathways included in development
- A fueling depot on waterfront
- Need a place to let sea planes land
- Can we move Columbia Fuels somewhere else and just run a line to the water .
- Buy and redevelop the land across from the Barclay – get Norske to sell off some of their land.
- We need to sell our citizens the vision
- More communication with citizens and tell them what's in it for them
- Our own internal PR campaign
- All citizens need to take ownership – we need to reach the 78% of folks that "don't get involved"
- Include the outlook 20/20 vision with tax notices
- All key owners must meet and talk
- Community needs to own its own land – City buying waterfront land?
- We need to re-brand the community
- Someone in the city to hold responsibility for getting the right people together
- Waterfront Commissioner (stewardship group)
- Make sure that we have a vision/plan
- Let's implement the marine services business ASAP , then people will come .
- High end boat Concierge type service
- Start with small beautification projects - more murals, landscaping
- Restore the Somass – Condos upstairs
- Build a gazebo for folks to get out of the rain/sun with historic plaques and info
- Must focus on our heritage
- "The Heart of the West Coast"

Next Steps:

- Champions to sell vision
- One person responsible for making this happen
- This will take funds
- Chamber will finish their Tourism Vision
- Keep our Youth in the community
- We need to be prepared for increased immigration

TOPIC: What are the priorities, needs to happen and first steps

CONVENER: NOTETAKER: J. Chase

DIALOGUE PARTICIPANTS:

- Buy out the Twin Cities auto dump! Replace it with
 - More murals/more welcome figures

What needs to happen?

- Buy out the Auto Dump
- Sharing the visions broadly in the community

- Advertising the ideas
- Do plan in sections
- \$ residents can sponsor a price of the trail, the boardwalk, benches
- as per the hospital, as per the Multiplex as per the gymnastics academy
- have big business and/or Gov't. match the private sponsorships
- a strong figurehead for the project
 - e.g. Tom McEvay got on board with the Multiplex and it became a "go"
- pier shops
- Put to work projects for people on Welfare/Community Service – train them use our own people not Nanaimo Regional Corrections inmates.
- Project Face Lift(new name)
- Mile of Flowers -entrance to Courtenay
- People Power -city provided flowers
- Little Tour Buses – cut size of city buses to save \$
- Need a Harbour Steering Committee
 - Political savy - knowledge about Gov't

- Dinner Cruises on boat(revamped Lady Rose?)
- No cars allowed on Harbour Quay
- Preserve our quiet beauty
- Parking availability at the foot of Johnson

TOPIC: What are the priorities, needs to happen and first steps

CONVENER: NOTETAKER: Carmi

DIALOGUE PARTICIPANTS: Guy, Mike, Carmi, Joel, Julie, Rick, Bob

Priorities:

- Sewer Plant Odors – possible waste from fish plant needs to be addressed before moving forward.
- Fish Plant needs to have on-site treatment
- City Council on side for vision – a part of plan and needs long term commitment – long term commitment with all stakeholders
- Need shared vision and commitment from all stakeholders
- Open up waterfront to more marine businesses
- Tsunami - plan for a Tsunami Event - Development plan build with Tsunami in mind. I.e. bldg structure, do not build hotel in max. impact
- Invite First Nations input to plan

What needs to happen:

- Needs consensus
- Core group of people – extension to 20120 group? To facilitate communication and oversee waterfront development and body with mandate.
- Integrate into official community plan
- 20120 Group

TOPIC: What are the priorities, needs to happen and first steps

CONVENER: NOTETAKER:

DIALOGUE PARTICIPANTS:

Priority:

- More widespread information to public. Involve Public more in the process i.e.
 - Booth at fall fair

- o Booth at quay
- o Suggestion box
- o Museum - have a display
- o Information posters in businesses
- o Communicate with small business
- o Shaw

First Steps:

- Better mapping of waterfront - entire inlet
- Conceptual plan

TOPIC: What are the priorities, needs to happen and first steps

CONVENER: Pamela NOTETAKER: Pamela

DIALOGUE PARTICIPANTS: Rebecca Ramsay, Pamela and 4 others

What needs to happen:

- Motivate people to not only have "mall" businesses
- Look at the whole valley re: littering
- Residents currently dump garbage in woods
- Open Farmer's Market to non-residents
- First Nations participation required
- People of all ages
- More non-wasps
- Funding: industrial, private investors, government, Sports Canada, sports organizations
- Thematic – fish or City of Totems – that embraces all nations
- Funding by business
- Lead committee visits other communities to learn their lessons/successes and failures
- Link to other communities by float plane or train
- Committee needs to be set up to handle each area. Research and action
- Word with other groups working on similar things
- Many gov't ministries involved
- Communicate/Understand complexity
 - o i.e. development permits without consideration to sewage needs
- over arching communication between jurisdictions
- give and take between stakeholders
- include broader water areas and lakes
- Tours farther – to China Creek, San Mateo Bay
- Park and Rid
- Parking Management

What are the first steps:

- Director and committee form
- Look at the current development as it effects the vision
- Include people who have experience in funding, what has worked before, what has failed
- Build the plan from a picture/vision/artist rendition
- Visual: present all available waterfront concepts, have it posted for public to review and comment all day, every day for a week, where people could come and vote for the things they like from any of the plans.

- Whether a paid consultant should be hired to spear head the plan
- Use the Native language in signs –keep this as part of the theme
- Divide the walkway into ethnic areas and let those communities develop their area in their cultural style
- Pike Place Market Seattle - covered for summer or winter a good example

TOPIC: What are the priorities, needs to happen and first steps

CONVENER: Pamela NOTETAKER: Rebecca Ramsay

DIALOGUE PARTICIPANTS: Pamela, Rebecca and 4 others

First Steps:

- Committees to do research and work out action steps
- Incentives for businesses to go to uptown area
- Litter/clean up programs
- Open Farmer's Market to more
- First Nations participation and those of all ages
- Research possible government funding and other
- Flesh out theme for marketing(branding and logo)
- Research short-comings, failures and successes of other communities
- Committees need to be educated by communicating with government and city bodies (sewer, infrastructure, environment, planning, parking etc.)
- Communicate and amalgamate all waterfront plans (First Nations, Port Authority, industry, city etc.)
- Have key members involved
- Look at whether a paid consultant should be spearheading/managing the project as a whole (someone who has experience with similar projects).

Ideas:

- Train link
- Visually present idea to community for feedback
- Continue awareness of native community (such as name of trails)
- Add cultural areas for representation along the walkway
- We need a village square (covered due to rain) People to hand out
- Waterfront Plan: include/expand plan to include rivers, whole inlet, Sprout Lake and Great Central Lake.

TOPIC: What are the priorities, needs to happen and first steps

CONVENER: David Whitworth NOTETAKER: David Whitworth

DIALOGUE PARTICIPANTS: Mary Gillis, Eileen Kreger, Colin Storzaker, Ike Patterson, Ted Van Adrichem

- Need a single group made up of all the major players to jump -start this. City should take a lead. Group will need "clout". Call it a "Steering Committee".
- The group needs to sell vision to the community
- Create a web site where people can find out about the waterfront (needs funding) long term commitment to the web.
- Clarify what is 'waterfront' how far inland - First Ave?
- Identify visions that are 'common' to both tourism and residents and they are priorities
- Focus on what people really need e.g.
 - o Marin and sports fishing facilities
 - o People on boats need pharmacy/grocery store/showers

- Need recreational parking
- * 20120 needs to put all the info in a form that is understandable then insist a steering committee be established
- need to define what areas will be industrial and what is residential and recreational

TOPIC: What are the priorities, needs to happen and first steps

CONVENER: NOTETAKER: Dave Patons

DIALOGUE PARTICIPANTS: Ken Watson, Robe Cole, ?, ?, ?

- Is the other side of the inlet available
- Can we land swap various areas to open up our access to the areas
- Strategic linkage of projects
- Can the jurisdiction be harmonized? Possibly by community support for vision
- 20120 kind of organization to facilitate the organization of water front
- Link Harbour Commission to Argyle and create stair to loop and link town
- More Parking
- What is mechanism to do this? Harbour Commission? Waterfront Commission - needs to link to greater vision?
- Does the City have a mechanism to set-up its own waterfront commission
- Can the city or citizens have Port Authority fulfill the vision
- Realism
- Start with resident needs. Start where we have control. Easy projects
- Small and achievable
- Harbour Quay - harbour commission
- What's the cleanup costs for environment
- How do we get people to pay for it
- How do we pay for it as a City, can we make away to pay for
- Make the down town sites the purchasers 1st obligation. Brown sites rather than green sites.
- Make Argyle inviting rather than a barren strip
- Closest thing to Harbour that the City has that can move forward.
- Trade City land for hydro for Norske to provide more waterfront
- Hydro move substation. Use Tsunami threat to leverage them away
- Taxes tied waterfront category
- Planning is a wonderful thing but you need the power to execute the plan.

TOPIC: What are the priorities, needs to happen and first steps

CONVENER: Rob Cole/Dave NOTETAKER: Ken Watson

DIALOGUE PARTICIPANTS: George McKnight, Dave, Dave Parsons, Keith Wyton, Rob Cole

What are priorities:

- Get common vision amongst jurisdictions so all working together: Port/City/Region/Chamber/FN's/Province/Feds
- Create good link between Harbour Quay/Maritime Centre/Marina/Uptown.
- Expand Developable Waterfront to include west side of Inlet and provide good access by Road to waterfront.
- Expand Role of Port Authority to be agency directing waterfront.
- Start with what city residents want for the waterfront o currently vacant lands. Don't go up against big industry.
- Get Esso Site and incorporated with Harbour lands for linkage along to Marina

Invitation - Sustainability

ENSURING A THRIVING SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITY

Outlook 20/20 invites you to a

PUBLIC FORUM

to discuss your ideas about the
future of the Alberni Valley

All members of our community are invited
to contribute to the vision.

Date: Monday February 20th
Time: 7:00 pm (Registration -
6:30)
Place: Echo Center (Cedar
Room)

BRING YOUR IDEAS!

Last year Outlook 20/20 held a series of Open Space Sessions to discuss the future of the Alberni Valley. Based on the discussion at the meetings, a preliminary vision for 'ensuring a thriving sustainable community' has been developed.

Outlook 20/20

A 20-year vision for the Alberni Valley

The Outlook 20/20 Council is a group of citizens of the Alberni Valley who volunteer their time to encourage public input into the future of the community. While we have the support of local government we are not political and have no corporate or other sponsors.

Outlook 20/20 was originally conceived to begin a community-wide, citizen-led process to create a 20-year vision and plan for the Alberni Valley, and to serve as a steward of the ongoing visioning process.

Outlook 20/20 does this by obtaining public input and:

- creating detailed pictures of the Alberni Valley as it may appear in 20 years;
- communicating these pictures to the people of the valley;
- inviting reaction that will be incorporated into the pictures ;
- stimulating action toward positive change.

Outlook 20/20 holds open meetings to collect ideas from the public, business, and local government. Then we organize the ideas to enhance further discussion and more input. We try to avoid influencing the ideas as we organize them.

At Outlook 20/20 meetings everyone has an equal voice.

When we find general agreement that something is important we organize meetings on that topic. Then, if sufficient people care enough about getting something done, we will help them get started and support their efforts.

Everyone who is passionate about the future of our valley is invited to become involved -there is a lot of work to do.

Outlook 20/20 -progress so far

People who came to our sessions in late 2004 and early 2005 had lots of ideas. Eight topics came up often and we have chosen to hold meetings on these over the next year. A validated vision and some action plans will emerge from these meetings. The eight are:

- Development of the waterfront (Vision validated at a meeting in late 2005)
- Ensuring the sustainability of our community
- Diversifying our local economy
- Positive marketing of our community
- Generating passion and involvement in our future
- Promoting our artists and artisans through a village centre
- Addressing poverty in our community
- Developing an integrated trail system

The meeting on Ensuring the Sustainability of our community on February 20th 2005 is the second of the meetings.

Sustainability Vision

POPULATION SUSTAINABILITY

In 2025 the Alberni Valley is sustained by:

A balanced population of all ages and skills.

Attracting sufficient young families to keep the economy and community vibrant.

Attracting a reasonable proportion of young retirees who come for second careers or to retire and contribute to the community.

- *Providing sufficient educational and employment opportunities to retain a critical number of young people who would otherwise leave.*
- *Ensuring adequate high quality health and social services to make the valley an attractive location for new business and to provide properly for the people of the area.*
- *Ensuring sufficient funding for social agencies in order to minimize negative social factors like crime, poverty and violence.*

ECONOMIC SUSTAINABILITY

In 2025 the Alberni Valley is sustained by:

- *A diversified economy that is tailor-made for our area and overcomes the boom and bust cycle.*
- *Continued, but smaller, emphasis on the traditional resource industries, which will in turn become more sustainable, in part by environmental responsibility and in part by developing local manufacturing of those resources.*
- *Formal energetic economic development processes supported by all government and business entities.*
- *An economy based on marketing our location as much as our resources.*
- *A vibrant First Nations economy that complements other economic activity.*
- *Businesses that use the Natural Step systems approach in their planning.*
- *Responsible water management in business and industry.*
- *Community Forests managed to be sustainable.*
- *Stimulating entrepreneurship in our education system and in business and providing the investment climate to encourage new businesses.*
- *Developing and expanding multiple transportation routes into the valley.*

ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY

In 2025 the Alberni Valley is sustained by:

- *Replacing its old reputation as a dirty polluted mill town with a reputation as a leader in environmentally responsible industry, education and government.*
- *A vigorous local community forest industry committed to sustainable growth providing local secondary industry with raw materials.*
- *A comprehensive recycling program that is (by now) profitable, easy to use and has become part of the community ethic.*
- *A clean water supply that is well protected by legislation.*
- *Marketing its commitment to green technologies, Natural Step system planning, and well-protected scenic environment as a major attraction to new business and tourists.*
- *Leading the province in the implementation of alternative energy.*
- *Energy savings due to implementation of efficient rail and other public transport within the valley and to the east coast.*

PLANNING FOR SUSTAINABILITY

In 2025 the Alberni Valley is sustained by:

- *A plan.*
- *Leaders who proactively encourage community input into all stages of planning.*
- *A balance in the plan between economic, social and environmental issues in the short and long term.*
- *Adoption of the Natural Step as a fundamental systems underpinning of the long term plan.*
- *Planning that is business friendly and that encourages businesses that commit to triple bottom line accounting.*
- *Learning from other communities where the experiences are relevant to the valley.*

EDUCATION CONTRIBUTES TO SUSTAINABILITY

In 2025 the Alberni Valley is sustained by:

- *Educational institutions that continuously seek community input so that they can develop and deliver courses that are relevant to changing community economic and social needs.*
- *Young people who choose to stay in the area for post secondary learning that is geared to the needs of local businesses.*
- *Apprentice programs that are supported locally and are directly relevant to the local economy.*
- *Young people who move to the Valley to learn skills and trades that are taught here with particular excellence.*
- *Locally educated entrepreneurs.*
- *Schools that teach sustainability and ecological awareness.*
- *A college that in the last 20 years has moved significantly on the path toward becoming a full university.*

AGRICULTURAL SUSTAINABILITY

In 2025 the Alberni Valley is sustained by:

- *Vigorous and profitable local farmers who grow and process food locally for consumption in the valley and beyond.*
- *Local and provincial regulation that recognises the true value of farmland and protects it. This will allow farmland to be leased for agricultural purposes.*
- *Exploiting the trend to organic farming and becoming a major supplier of organic produce across the Island.*
- *Citizens and businesses that deliberately choose local grown produce over imported items.*
- *A fulltime farmer's market that enhances its trade by incorporating local crafts and art.*
- *An active community garden programme that feeds gardeners and helps mitigate poverty.*

A SUSTAINABLE POSITIVE IMAGE

In 2025 the Alberni Valley is sustained by:

- *A continuous effort on the part of civic leaders and local business organizations that promotes a positive and attractive image of the area for marketing to tourists, selling our location to potential employers, and keeping local citizens feeling positive about their community.*

- *Having abandoned its former reputation as a dirty mill town.*
- *Civic leaders who ensure local people are constantly reminded of the positive aspects of the Valley.*
- *Exploiting technologies like web sites and the Internet to present the area to the world in a positive light.*
- *Formal planning rules and regulations that are proactively applied to ensure that: derelict premises are cleaned up; absentee landlords are charged with keeping their premises up to standard; the highway approaches to the area are kept attractive and appealing; and increased use of pedestrian areas is complemented by easy transit between urban centres.*
- *A volunteer force that is charged with keeping the town clean and attractive.*
- *Using the industrial heritage of the area as a marketing feature.*
- *Real progress to lower rates of poverty and crime so that the area's image is not harmed.*

SUSTAINABLE FIRST NATIONS

In 2025 the Alberni Valley is sustained by:

- *Respect among and between all cultures in the Valley and an accepted community ethic intolerant of racism no matter how subtle.*
- *First Nations who contribute in their own chosen way to the health and vitality of the social and economic fabric.*
- *First Nations who are the first beneficiaries of any tourist interest in their cultural history, but a Valley that celebrates the benefit of having vital and active First Nations partners.*
- *Having learned from other countries some lessons about cultural relations and now being able to show our success to others who want to make similar progress.*

A SUSTAINABLE VOLUNTEER FORCE

In 2025 the Alberni Valley is sustained by:

- *An active volunteer community that maintains its numbers by courting young people to begin volunteering early in their lives.*
- *A process that distributes volunteer efforts equitably among agencies.*
- *Rewarding its volunteers and recognising their contribution.*
- *Celebrating an annual "Volunteers Day".*

Open Space Proceedings

Alberni Valley Outlook 20/20
Public Forum on Sustainability
February 20, 2006

In Attendance:

Andersen, Darryl	Gordon, Judy	Ruttan, Bonnie
Berry, Cathy	Graboski, Anne	Ryding, Erin
Blake, Doug	Graboski, Joel	Smith, Wayne
Chase, Joanne	Graham, Heather	Springer, Sylvia
Chopra, Hira	Hall, Tom	Sullivan, Margaret
Cicon, Guy	Hillman, Sharon	Swann, Garry
Cole, Rob	Jarrett, Dave	Thoma, Ian
Colyn, Willem	Kingston, Theresa	Thornburg, Jack
Cooper, Barbara	Lee, Vicki	Van Apeldoorn, John
Cote, Brian	Martin, Don	Watson, Ken
Cox, Edna	Mclemman, Jack	White, Glen
Cyeldroon, J.	Morton, Gail	Whiteman, Kenn
Day, Pamela	Paquet, Maggie	Whitworth, David
Denning, Bev	Patterson, Ike	Wichar, Andrea
Duncan, Craig	Pazitch, Alexandra	Wyton, Bernadette
Fleming, Anne	Phillips, Vern	Wyton, Keith
Flynn, Brenda	Putzke, Mike	Zens, F.
Flynn, Peter	Robinson, Reid	

Dialogue Topic: Sustainability

Session 1

Convener: Note taker: Bonnie Ruttan

Participants:

Summary of Discussion:

- industry has to be reliable over the long term
- can't have dependability without water protection
- if the valley doesn't look appealing it won't draw people
- there's nothing in the vision about agriculture. There's 140 farms /properties but isn't being used
- there are people who would love to farm but they can't afford to property and startup cost
- with the price of oil we have to be able to produce our own food
- if people aren't using their own land, they should be able to lease it out
- one problem is that people who own agriculture land can get more for their land if they get out of the ALR and sell for higher prices.
- Isn't there legislation to protect farm land? The NDP worked on this
- farmland is gradually being eroded
- there is a mention in the vision of water and food sustainability but there needs to be a greater emphases on sustainability of farmland/production of land and water quality
- it is difficult to earn a living as a farmer
- how can people in cities support farmers
- Farmers can't do all the work required but can't afford to hire workers
- The average farmers income in Canada last year was -\$ 540.00

- Farmers can't survive on what they earn
- Fuel can be made out of bio-wood waste. Someone who does working this area (making bio-fuel out of wood waste) wants to locate here
- We have a huge opportunity here to create products out of wood waste, eg fish fertilizer
- There are recourses that aren't being used because there is no market right now, eg fir
- We need to develop was of encouraging back yard gardens – food production for own use
- School programs could be used to develop this rirea
- Bio-security is becoming a big issue, with people moving from one place to another, diseases are being transmitted
- Local agriculture is key to sustainability
- Education must stimulate creativity and imagination as well as developing commercial skill etc.
- People could be drawn here by opportunity for leisure, creativity etc.
- Recycling is something that has to be developed
- Recycling could become a business
- Bring in people in the field (Edmonton) who can train us to deal with recycling more effectively
- The water we buy in little plastic bottles is an environmental problem
- In our city we do a rotten job of recycling. We can do a lot more in this area.
- There are plans in the works for developing recycling facilities
- We're the only city on the island that doesn't have a blue box program.
- There are problems with the regional district. There're not all in favor of the blue box program.

Dialogue Topic: Session 2

Convener:

Note taker: Bonnie Ruttan

Summary of discussion:

Population

- environmentally friendly industries (computer, recycling centers)
- do we want a larger population?, eg. Qualicum is at max, they don't want to grow.
- We need a mixture of ages etc.
- Our population is going to change, eg. Saskatchewan has a First Nations population that is growing, over 55 % of total. Our population is changing too
- Vocational programs and a trade school could be developed here
- North Island College has 15 acres to develop Wolfgang Zimmerman, who is from Port Alberni, is coming to speak on topic of retraining for job related disabilities. We could be a training center
- We have to do public relations work because we are seen as backward.
- We're the best kept secret on the Island We used to be seen as that smelly mill town
- People say they've been through Port Alberni. We have to stop them on Johnson Road. There has to be something beautiful.
- The area at Coombs Country Candy is an eyesore. Everybody talks about how ugly it is, that area with junk yard, billboards and trees cut down.
- There could be tax incentives to get people to clean up their yards, fix up houses etc.
- When you look at the city thru the eyes of a tourist, the town looks junky.

- What can people do?
- We could have a volunteer group to help beautify the city
- Billboards are not allowed. There are bylaws prohibiting billboards. The city has a bylaw inspector.
- The regional district needs to have bylaw inspectors.
- Get rid of junk. Clean up buildings.
- We need to beautify the buildings.
- We have to look at absentee landowners.
- We can't allow our development to be determined by people who don't live here.
- We have water problems caused by uncontrolled logging
- Water problems are driving away some business, (B & B, etc)
- The word "community" is not in the dictionary mind set of logging operators. They are aware of their rights under the law. They know how far they can go.
- What about Scott Fraser, has he been invited to meetings about logging and affect on community?
- We need to more proactive
- Get ideas on the table
- Turn ideas into action, eg. Our doctors are recruiting doctors from South Africa - good for them.
- There are opportunities for women in the trades

Session ?:

Convener:

Note taker:

Participants: G.S.; Barbara Cooper; Joanne Chase; Vicki Lee; Judy Gordon; Gail Morton; and a ?

Summary of Discussion:

- dependable industry not in and out
- hard to be dependable
- water legislation
- don't like to look
- local agriculture community
- 145 parcels agriculture land reserve
- lease of farm land
- keep land to stand price
- increase food and water sustainability
- oil depletion
- living wage for farmers

Topic: The Environment - biological support system

Convener: Note taker:

Participants: B. Wyton; W.C.; Vern Pinups; J.Cyeldroon; Colyn; K.Wyton; Reid Robinson; Keith Whyton; Maggie Paquet; Alexandra Passitle

Summary of discussion:

Session 1

- Cathedral Grove learning centre

- Who is in charge of the surrounding land?
- Reidkarst -water-biodiversity -legal protection required - green space
- secondary sewerage treatment
- ecological literacy -we need systematic education on ecology in our schools
- what is sustainability - changing things so life can go on
- The Natural Step System is a good method to understand our relationship to the environment
- First Nations are not present - how can we change this?

Topic: Environment:

Convener:

Note taker: B. Wyton

Summary of discussion:

(not everyone agreed here) pretty wild discussion, all over the map.

- Cathedral Grove: - Introduction to our territory; learning center
- Asked what people thought was important about environment
- Need some say about the land
- New species, limestone, Karst (ecology) cave fossils
- **Recycling.**
- Continuous improvement,
- hope,
- limits on growth/smart growth
- No SUV's, green cars
- Healthy forests
- **Biodiversity**
- **Soil**
- #1 air
- #1 water/ quality
- no smoking
- **wildlife**
- #1 healthy food (wholesome)
- **agriculture**
- more green space
- riparian corridors,
- bad news, poop/sewage in the estuary. 2darytreatment needed
- dumbed down culture-need ecological literacy & Education
- System approach
- Bottled water vs our clean water why
- Series of extinctions -history /recognize - liquidating forest. collapse of industry
- Why aren't First Nations here? Need to work together.
- Hupacasath (foot of Johnson) development could, for example, connect to a First Nations development at Polly's Point
- Ocean -connection - get it back, vibrant/healing bio system

Dialogue Topic

Convener:

Note Taker: Rob Cole

Participants: Margaret Sullivan, Ian Thomas, Sylvia Springer, Darryl Andersen, Doug Blaire, Anne Fleming, Guy Cicon

Summary of Discussion:

Part 1

- is it more people less people
- How do we involve the First Nation and youth etc.
- need work to keep youth here
- Outside developer, (?) but can an elder family member fit in?
- what is considered old timers in P. A. 8 yrs, 20 yrs, 40 plus in the community
- small amount of small house units for mid seniors or D.I.N.K.S
- stable must be dynamic will evolve and change'
- sustainability used as a focus of community efforts to start any action plans
- youth leave for education
- Business people using a second community or a second home town need to offer then something to use P.A. as of first home town.
- are all other Island communities losing youth
- sustain the great volunteer community we have (celebrate the volunteers)
- Volunteer youth came to P.A. a lot of people asked why did you come to P.A., she says why not. It's a great place views etc.

Dialogue Topic: Sustainability Volunteers Sector

Convener: Sylvia Springer

Note Taker: Rob Cole

Participants: Margaret Sullivan, Ian Thomas, Guy Cicon, Darryl Andersen, Doug Blake Anne Fleming,

Summary of Discussion

Session 2

- New blood needed, critical
- Celebrate the volunteers. Salmon Fest 25¹¹¹ Anv.
- and Pennyworth Newspaper (?)
- Is there a volunteer day?
- Let the community know what volunteers have done for them, Multi Plex, Heritage society, salmon habituate, Rugby club, parks and rec fields, --- baseball, slow pitch. Tall Ships.
- Many people don't understand the work needed for things to happen, they enjoy without realizing they can help out and feel even better.
- Why do people volunteer in the community? Need for an activity, need for contact, Soul connection, the betterment of the community. Community pride, an extension of their jobs – as a donation?
- Need to involve youth in volunteer in the community then they can open their eyes to the community.
- Tell the story of the volunteers in the community
- --- around Volunteers Central focus, communicate
- capture early, 20-30 , or it is hard to get them into volunteering later in life.
- Support Leadership training. Leaders breed Volunteers
- Natural Pitch InWeek. City will ask people to help pitch in not advertise for help.
- Show the importance of what the volunteers are doing, let them feel needed.

Dialogue Topic: Sustainability

Convener:

Note Taker: Edna Cox

Participants: Erin Ryding, Don Martin, Ike Patterson, Mike Putzke, Hira Chopra

Summary of Discussion

Session: 1

not crippled by crime and violence like many other communities

- poverty is a problem
- don't keep people between 18-early 20's
- censes has population increased
- young people move to bigger cities because no jobs even though they would rather stay here
- we need to create job opportunities
- retired people looking for quality of life in small community
- also youth who are here , living in poverty -- social economic disadvantage high here
- we're along way from sustainability because we've been a one industry town
- Technology has taken away job too. Mills still Important to economy
- Population now around 18,000(same as 1967). Fewer children, young people leaving, old people coming in. We should set goal in 5 yr. increments, eg. 2005-2010/ 2010-2015, because circumstances change quickly.
- Both Jong term vision and short term goals needed
- Missing -too long range; short term goals needed to make it not too overwhelming
- Parksville mentioned as good planning; Nelson took planning seriously, including all grass roots; Comox Valley also. Canmore (former resident) a play ground for the rich.
- Tofino too; Squamish-a good comparison . We can't just follow any other communities.
- First Nations, Alb., Pr. Alb., rural communities, eg. Cherry Creek, Beaver Creek, comments of young person 5 year plans –yes but we also need hope/vision for the far future.
- Ucluelet is a good example of recreational/community planning.
- *Agriculture industry -needs to be considered, our climate and land still waiting -we should protect our land for agriculture use -we are subdividing land which should be kept for farming. (2 farmers spoke to this). Pressure to sell agriculture land is increasing -this is
- Ecotourism -geography, archaeology, hist, cultural unique factors here, we should market this.
- The WestCoasters may be too laid back to exploit opportunities, - "a potential gold mine".
- First Nations participation -none here tonight –essential, how do we get this?
- There is still a division, deep sea port? -not in the government cards now. Containers? -Third choice after Prince Rupert and Vancouver.
- 2012 -a good projected time because it is a 100 year anniversary (6 yr plan?) missing
- *We need to know why they, First Nations participation in this process, they're not here; could they host an Outlook meeting? ALL AGREED STRONGLY
- Do a better job of promoting just what the Outlook 20/20, so that the groups who aren't here (First Nations, youth)
- *Undercurrents of racism (in youth especially)

Dialogue Topic: session 2 Sustainable Economy

Convener: Note taker: Edna Cox

Participants: Ike Pattersen, Hira Chopra, Mike Putzke, new VP Catalyst

Summary of Discussion:

- Create a business-friendly climate. Business/Service there must be a need locally (health/fitness/long-term care) or regionally.
- - Identify needs and then attract those who can fill them. Outdoors/eco - tourism a growth area. We need to provide education/training for those new

- Do an inventory of skills, experience of the current population.
- Bottom line is can I make a buck here
- Quality of life is an attractant for business people too (crime, taxes, parks, outdoors)
- Tax incentives for business, small, medium and large, we need more jobs not dependant on
- A mix of population, included those who bring their own jobs
- Need young families who are the biggest consumer's recreational areas
- A large population increases property taxes and special incentives to new industries, business (small ones too)
- We need to educate locals about how wonderful it is here (parks, train. Mill etc)
- Diversify the economy - identify potential needs and meet them
- Chamber of Commerce and the Visitor's Info Centre need to do more; more work by Chamber of Commerce is needed. Get Real Estate people on board
- An Economic Development Officer is needed
- - Groups of people needed to approach City Council and say we are willing to "do something" - please endorse/support us
- The City could put on a lobby campaign/petition and present it to MLA's, MP's ie. Federal projects e.g. Police Academy. Citizens should pressure city to pressure senior govts.
- Key industries need to be retained. Close loopholes re logging export (a provincial govt issue)
- We have to market this community more aggressively and positively. (pollution -labour unrest - old stuff)
- On city website -talk about industry, labour climate, safe streets, beauty, tax incentives, quality of life. This has worked for other communities.

Dialogue Topic: Economy (Education)

Session 1

Convener:

Note taker: Theresa Kingston

Participants: Tom Hall, Bev Denning, Glen White, Joel Graboske, Theresa Kingston

Summary of Discussion:

When we refer to Education we mean Adult Education

- Keeping young people here, they leave to get trained
- What kind of training? What needs to be done – extended care aid – less skilled medical professions
- Therapeutic, recreation, special education training here -niche markets
- Who's providing the training, eg Discovery College cost (\$1600.) verses North Island College (\$200.)
- Dichotomy of those who have, Discover \$ vs. minima entrance standard and competency testing coming out of (NIC)
- Actions: Get someone from NIC involved on this. Tom Weeger Principal, Board representatives involved – start having this college to make decisions in the best interest of this community.
- Construction Boom: need trades training here to have young people stay
- Viable alternative to the universities, start here -then go across the region
- Prince George - University -critical mass
- Apprentice programs -doing with mills. Sawmills -saw filer, mill wrights
- Partner with BCIT, satellite hub, hospitality industry, search and rescue, marine industry, health workers
- Does not to be physically in NIC –

- Out of the box
- Involving First Nations in professional training locally - success
- Fisheries hatcheries restoration (touching on environmental)
- Young people coming back in their late 30's early 40's
- What's at the core -they love this community great place to raise children had their own great experiences here growing up
- Reason for coming back -child and youth infrastructure is now threatened
 - o Volunteer system not sustainable
 - o Poor corporate citizens compare to MB
 - o Agencies funding cut
 - o Need to beg for lottery funds
- Fighting for resources
- Need tax base to grow to support
- Volunteer -writing grants, jumping 'hoops' -lottery to sustain what we had
- Fighting against each other
- Too many groups who have become fund raisers
- Not sustainable
- Longevity in volunteer -a bonus but also a problem
- "came here for a job, stayed here for the community"
- Our new slogan: "Came here for 1 year and stayed for 36"
- Do a workshop on "NIC" in the community, their role & what we want

Dialogue Topic: Sustainability Session 2

Convener: **Note taker: Theresa Kingston**

Participants: Sharon Hillman, Bev Denning, Joel Graboski, Tom Hall, Glen White, Theresa Kingston

Summary of Discussion:

What's Right

- keep younger people lots of returnees but need young
- only way to keep younger people through sustainable employment -need valuable jobs -not Wal mart jobs –used to be forest jobs -not necessarily tourism ie chamber maids, bus boys, not discount tourism –some good wages out of tourism
- jobs - afford to live; entry level jobs promote experience; then move into higher pay
- Tourism lynch pin to bring in other jobs, building, need more than tourism -need diversity in types of jobs available. e.g. construction –diversity beyond tourism
- housing -renovations -community expanding
- tourism brings in movement –construction, non direct jobs that are high paying
- do an analysis on how tourism drives an economy –a boom e.g. why Whistler and Tofino - beaches mountains forever, but what caused the boom to occur
- PA -we had an identity as an industrial base -now recognizing that we need to re-identify ourselves -a new identity, identity crisis - social dichotomy -those who have and those who don't'
- Communications/advertising policy -viability to carry the word out -get the message out
- PA -develop diversity, not be a Whistler , Chemanius
- We still have the trees *SIB* manufacture locally
- Should address this resource going over the hill, are we not exporting logs
- Paerksville, Qualicum are there issues with youth - yes

- Need to preserve the child/youth infrastructure e.g. Make Children First, Parks and Rec,
- College, not utilized -problems -run out of Courtney, little local input – don't make an effort e.g. nursing program moved

Summary Discussion: What's missing?

- link with the college, connection with the community. *SIB* listening to the needs of the community e.g. health skills training, bring in more skills training here
- hub for attracting entrepreneurial interests
- education system geared to fostering the entrepreneurial spirit e.g. tourism, trades, arts, research(wood industry) value added
- drive to accredit the college as a university

What's Right:

- link with First Nations community ie Hupacasath, F.N. have vision
- look at whole entire valley examples of First Nations collaboration
- Australia -way to do it wrong
- New Zealand-way to do it right, encouraging FN to be involved
- Creating an environment of working together
- Do we research what NZ has done -looking at other cultures
- Change is very slow -can't be impatient: it, centuries of repression can't be undone in a short time
- How did the dialogue take place -NZ , speaking from a place of strength

ENV - What's missing

- Recycling need
- Recycling what into what, only 10% of people recycling how do we pay- costs alot
- whats the cost of not doing it
- Is there someone somewhere making \$ from recycling? Need economy of scale
- Blue Box, Kelowna
what was the political process to get it in place?
- What balanced out -need to be researched -cost -is it possible to do here?

Identity

- Chamber of Commerce contest to rename brand the community what ever happened to it?
- Where is the Chamber and Regional District tonight?

Farmers Market:

- More than /day/week as an Artisans Market – a lot of talented people
- San Diego -Belbou Park - Artisan Village- working artists -studio plus market place - Plaza outdoors surrounded by Artist's studio's

Dialogue Topic: PEAK OIL session 1

Convener: Gary Swan Note Taker: Gary Swan

Participants : Wayne Smith, Jack Thornberg, Gail Morten, Don Martin, Reid Robinson

Summary of Discussion:

- May already have had happened, going to happen soon
- Sweden Fossil fuel free by 2020
- Population centers other types of transportation , easy for shopping
- Bush develop U.S. more self sufficient in energy
- Micro hydro already been passed, chasing down last reserves off coast rigs, brings in transient labour

- Objective eco fuel
- Wind turbines
- Solar
- Tidal & wave
- Geo thermal
- Higher fuel prices, destabilization Sustainable Fossil Fuels - Yager SFU
- Sustainable
- Micro hydro
- Methane from garbage
- Alternative energy headquarter tax branch to attract
- Peak oil, greater use of railway needed, connections and schedules
- Locally produced organic agriculture
- Incentives for locally produced foods, Quality Foods
- Demand Request be sourced at the store
- Real Food Fair
- Peak Oil furnace
- Celebrate what is already going on
- An event to highlight sustainable initiatives

Dialogue Topic: Session 2

Convener: Bernadette Wyton

Note taker: Jack Thornburg

Participants: Bernadette Wyton, Willem Coyn, Vern Phillips, John Van Apeldoorn, Jack Thornberg, F. Zens, Alex Passitela

Summary of discussion:

- We are going to become even more retiree's community. Therefore we'll need services, jobs, and a young population to fill them.
- Recommend more training and practical education (such as NIC) so that we can fully equip our young people so that they won't leave.
- Marine services, close collaboration between Bamfield and Port Alberni
- More locally grown and organic food produced here, how can we set incentives for more long term sustainable local agriculture?

Dialogue Topic: Plan for Sustainability

Convener: Craig Duncan

Note taker: Craig Duncan

Participants: Dave Jerrett, Craig Duncan, Jack McLeman Peter Flynn, Brenda Flynn, Cathy Berry, Ken Watson

Summary of Discussion:

- Abolish private land use in local industry
- Need a community, Forest industry connection, there is a lack of connection with usage
- Need more community input into hospital activities
- Beautify our city for people entering our town
- Property maintenance bylaw - ?
- Highway to Home Lake
- Stop Urban sprawl

Dialogue Topic: Sustainability Paper

Convener: Craig Duncan

Note taker: Ken Watson

Participants: David Jarrett, Craig Duncan, Jack McLeman, Peter Flynn, Barbara Flynn, Cathy Berry

Summary of Discussion:

Other industries potential:

- Federal Prison/ Film industry
- Higher education/trades education
- First Nations oriented education

Transportation access:

- New route out of Valley
- Railway? Sustainable?
- Port development, New business
- Tourism access
- Develop Airport to schedual flights

Other Recourses

- Water for sale
- wind energy
- small hydro generation

We have to join the dots -connect, access/industry/arts

Dialogue Topic: Sustainability

Convener: David Whitworth

Note taker:

Participants: Heather Graham, Reid Robinson, Kenn Whitman, Brian Cot, Andrea Winchar

Summary of Discussion

- absence of family doctors -issue for young people
- social well-being is important-include medical help
- even to get a basic prescription have to go to Victoria for the last 4 yrs
- women can't get adequate birth control
- how many others with no GP do we not know about
- cost of those people are poor education/unemployed
- we have social facilites gridlock
- need walkin clinic
- why would doctors come here
- doctors will burn out - we are five doctors short
- where is the soul of a commitment that will let people live here without services
- we need to attract people from outside , like cheeses from Courtney
- lack of entrepreneurial spirit in town
- People want someone to give them a job

What's Missing

- Urban planning need to prevent urban sprawl over 2 sections of Port Albemi
- Re-use empty lots for house and business.
- Keep it dense, not all car based, pedestrian based
- Need a shuttle form N to S port and back free –merchants to pay
- Separation of N&S Port is and issue/obstacle
- In each one, can walk to shopping but not between
- There is no downtown

- Need to connect them
- Harbour Quay is drawing point
- Qualicum has done it elegantly. Need a consistent look
- There is only catering to tourist trade -need something for residents.
- Make it attractive to residents.
- Adventure tourism "learn to build a log house" pr a school to do this.
- Need a maid service in town.
- Why is there no entrepreneurship here.
- We have no young immigrants to spur entrepreneur
- Community has to look at sustainability of forests and streams
- Water quality is important.
- Water license holders have been affected -need to advocate changes to legislation.
- Under utilized resources eg: Karst (limestone).
- Need to preserve caves and underground water.
- How to preserve our tourist resource (environment)
- Need to have small localities for tourists
- Horne Lake makes money and employment, people don't come here.
- We have caves here but don't use them.

Dialogue Topic: Economic Sustainability

Convener: David Whitworth

Note taker:

Participants: Heather Graham, Reid Robinson, Kenn Whitman, Brian Cote, Andrea Winchar

Summary of Discussion

- Old industries are not future -new entrepreneurs are
- People want "Government" to do something -not realistic
- City and people in it don't have confidence in themselves
- People believe it is too late.
- Hold an outlook meeting at a first nation's location
- Could learn from F.N. business model -co-operation
- Co-operative ventures could help eg: shared kitchen for small caterer and food supplier
- Opportunity in 1st Nation tourism
- Cater to German tourist with F.N. peoples
- Different sessions with each of the 1st Nations separately
- River Road will be our "main street" in the future
- How do we get people to start new businesses
- Community Futures is limited to EI people.
- Model from Banks in India & Bangladesh. GRAMEEN Bank
- Need co-op approaches
- Local small venture capital
- Need to change the culture -people expect to have a job
- Young people move out to start business
- Maybe we need a mentor program for young people
- Umbrella organizations to vouch for new young businesses
- Why don't we market P.A. history -how to fell a tree as an entertainment -problem is liability ins.
- Pioneer Camps –have a ghost town where people could stay and learn

- Brand the town with a new entrepreneurial image and change will occur
- Brand all the "funky" things in town and make a list that people want to be on.
- How do we tap into 1st Nations
- Important for the future
- We need to support them.

Summary of Public Input

Ensuring a Thriving and Sustainable Community

Outlook 2020 public meetings identified eight topics that participants believe are critical to the future of the Alberni Valley. This summary describes the concerns, thoughts and suggestions from participants, on the second topic: "Encouraging a Sustainable Community".

Participants told us that a boom-and-bust economy, based on a few large resource industries, is not sustainable over the long term. They also told us that the population in a sustainable Alberni Valley must be balanced in age, have adequate housing, employment and health, and be free of crippling poverty, and crime. Finally, we were told that a sustainable environment is essential to support our lives, our work, and our future.

The results of public input on this topic are summarized under the following five headings.

1. A Sustainable population

People tell us sustainable communities have populations that are adequately housed, fed and employed. They have proper health and social services. They are not crippled by high rates of crime, violence and poverty. They are demographically varied with productive, innovative people between 20 and 40 to drive industry and commerce; older investors with money and experience; seniors to balance and lead; and young people who do not need to leave town to earn a living.

People expect more "Baby-Boom" early retirees to move here in the next few years. This is a double-edged sword. Many are still young enough to contribute economically and in the community. But most people do not want to live in a retirement community where many leave for the winter, and where there is a disproportionate demand on health facilities.

Therefore, it is critical to retain and attract more young people in the valley. Citizens tell us that North Island College, and an expansion of education, are tools to meet this challenge. Education in the valley must directly support industry and commerce that will be part of our future. People want us to lead education and research in sustainability disciplines that relate to our community.

Experiences in Squamish were cited where First Nations youth joined with other ethnic communities to develop projects and recreational opportunities.

2. A Sustainable Economy

People want an economy that is not subject to boom-and-bust or dependent on a few large resource industries. While viable industrial and commercial sectors are essential, citizens want diversity, innovation and environmental awareness to take precedence over short or medium term jobs.

This will require the community and its leaders to change priorities. Our natural advantages and innovative new ideas will be emphasized. A drastic business closure may trigger a painful change, or environmentally aware planning standards that encourage green business and eco tourism could allow us to prepare and change without crisis.

Other sustainable communities found something unique to "sell". The Alberni Valley has its own unique features: deep sea port; great recreational facilities; incredible natural setting; access to the west coast; small community atmosphere; tourist attractions; trails; artists, etc. Industrial and First Nations heritage are valuable assets. People suggested ideas for marketing our community, including a theme for the valley and an "Alberni Valley Ambassador". The whole region - the valley down to Barkley Sound – needs to be involved in the planning.

Potential conflicts and other issues and were raised. Corporate and rural conflicts, central government policy, tax deals for innovation that seem to penalize existing business, and values conflicts such as Cathedral Grove were examples. Others were concerned about transportation issues, the depressed appearance of the area and the need to change local attitudes and increase communication among existing residents.

Several specific ideas were raised often and at some length:

1. People want First Nations to play a significant role in a sustainable community and economy. Despite obvious differences here, Squamish's experiences with First Nations were often mentioned as worthy of research and imitation – especially their experiences involving youth. There was concern that an undercurrent of feeling, which in some opinion amounts to racism, is a significant issue to be dealt with.
2. The "Natural Step" framework for sustainability was frequently raised as way the Alberni Valley could move forward, especially as it has been used in many of the cities from whom we can learn. A particular advantage of this method is the opportunity for people to find small things that they can do individually to help.
3. More education is needed to: build a sustainable workforce; help people learn about sustainability; and encourage youth to stay in our economy.
4. People want responsible, sustainable, resource management in fishing, logging and agriculture, to be part of our future and for it to be under community control.
5. Some of the public wants us to pursue more self-sufficiency in the valley and increase support for local farming and markets. Six million dollars of produce is transported into the valley every year. Organic farming is an economic opportunity to be pursued. Community gardens might increase sustainability and mitigate poverty.
6. Some people see water management to be a critical issue. This is in part to make sure the community has control of its supply of unpolluted water, but also by some participants as a way to raise funds by selling water to other communities on the Island.
7. The community forest initiative -especially if it can involve First Nations - was cited as a way in which critical change can be brought about in sustainable resource management.

3. A Sustainable Environment

Environmentally aware participants are concerned for global and local issues and see them as connected. They believe that the Alberni Valley needs to be concerned for several reasons:

1. To market our community we need not only to overcome the outside perception of the area as an industrially polluted wasteland, but also make a strong commitment to a more environmentally aware future in our business sector. Green development and growth can become a major attraction for new residents and business.
2. The natural environment is a major selling point for the area.
3. Resources will still be a part of our industrial base so they must remain sustainable.

Several concerns were raised about recycling in the valley. These ranged from specific items (e.g. batteries) that are hard to recycle here, to a general skepticism about the effectiveness of the present facilities and suspicion that much material ends up in the dump. People want a program supported by initiatives like a re-use station and collection of specific materials. Pesticide use, remaining industrial pollution, and rural garbage problems also compromise sustainability.

Therefore people want to see environmentally aware planning and policy in local government, local industry and commerce, perhaps by adoption of the Natural Step framework, so that the Alberni Valley is known for environmental success rather than as a "dirty city".

4. Learn From Other Cities

Other communities in the Province, Canada and the World have committed to sustainable development and then seen their economy and standard of living improve.

People in the Alberni valley think that we need to research these communities and find out what they are doing and what we can copy. Places mentioned include: Squamish (Whistler),

Revelstoke, Canmore, Coeur d'Alene Idaho, Tumbler Ridge, and Nelson.

5. Plan for sustainability

People believe that there is massive change happening in Alberni Valley that will be unlike previous change. It will not be another boom-and-bust. New population coming to the west coast will drive much of the change. People want this change to occur; but they want the community's response to be considered and planned. They want the resulting society to be sustainable. The community wants to be in control

Change to a sustainable community will require planning that is different, in at least three ways, from traditional planning, based on land-use:

1. It will be community driven. Plans will not be developed until the community has given their input and a consensus reached on a vision for the future. The process will be ongoing and involve the whole community at all stages.
2. It will include the economy, social factors, and the environment: it will balance the demands of all three.
3. Public education about all three components will be part of the process.

People in the valley believe that we have the talent, community commitment and drive to take the steps need to become sustainable. They are aware of the challenges involved: overcoming the inertia of the community's history, the need to meaningfully involve First Nations, the need to include a wide variety of opinion, and the changes in attitude that will be required. Citizens want to be involved in the planning.

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Invitation - Poverty

Outlook 2020

INVITES EVERYONE TO PARTICIPATE IN A

PUBLIC MEETING

MEETING BASIC HUMAN NEEDS
IN THE ALBERNI VALLEY

MONDAY, MAY 15th 7p.m.

Cedar Room, Echo Centre

••••• Introductory Speaker, Ron Jorgenson,
Special Education Resource Teacher

••••• Round-table Discussions

**Come and add your voice to the
community's vision for our valley**

For more information : call 723-8362

Open Space Proceedings

**Alberni Valley Outlook 20/20
Public Forum on Poverty
May 13, 2006**

In Attendance:

?, Eric	Fisher-Bradley, Steve	Pazitch, Alexandra
?, Joyce	Graboski, Ann	Ruttan, Bonnie
?, Sally	Gunn, Robert	Smith, Anysley
?, Terry	Hargreaves, Bob	Smyth, Tracy
Berg, Richard	Jorgensen, Ron	Springer, Sylvia
Cole, Rob	Kingston, Theresa	Stephenson, Barbara
Cox, Edna	McEvay, Tom	Swann, Gary
Cross, Cathy	McLeman, Jack	Thompsen, Gail
Day, Pamela	McRae, Ken	Thrasher, Penn
Denning, Bev	Nairne, Janice	Whiteman, Kenn
Edwards, Patti	Pace, Ether	Whitworth, David
Fisher-Bradley, Jen		

Dialogue Topic: What would the Alberni Valley look like if everyone's basic human needs were met?

Convener: Edna Cox **Note Taker:** Edna Cox

Participants: Richard Berg, Gail Thompsen, Anysley Smith, Joyce, Rob, Edna

- What are basic human needs?
- The rich would be poorer and the poor would be richer.
- There would be more low cost housing.
- Free drugs for necessities of life.
- Good quality food; shelter - reliable, no consequences; clothing, as locally produced as possible, choice – seasonally.
- Health care; counseling; payment in kind for community work; e.g. park maintenance, "winter works".
- Contribution to the community is valued; being a member of community.
- Opportunities to own one's own house.
- Alternative housing -build small units/apartments/ houses which are owned (therefore develop pride); co-operative housing.
- Educate/change perceptions of community about importance of size of house and wealth.
- Health care – free pharmacare, dental, vision, medical care, a range of options: wellness emphasis.
- Care of Children and Youth in: free 24 hr. daycare, activities – learning support, parenting and family support, options for birth control, more apprenticeships and practical training for youth (as in Europe).
- Sexuality: taking responsibility for one's own sexual health/well-being.
- Encouragement of extended, more walking, and cycling - less driving.
- Services and stores in regional/neighbourhoods, rather than centralized.
- Emphasis on prevention (strong families and friends),

- Federal-Guaranteed liveable income from taxes already.
- Liveable minimum wage.
- Dignity of not being a drag on the system.
- System of work/service credits -regional money; a voucher/barter system.
- Community gardens-sharing the work from planting to harvesting.
- Ongoing training and education for adults (NIC) community input to programming.

Dialogue Topic: What would the Albemi Valley look like if everyone's basic human needs were met?

Convener: Edna Cox **Note Taker:** Aynsely Smith

Participants: Richard Berg, Gail Thompsen, Aynsley Smith, Joyce, Rob, Edna

Key terms: Free, accessible, non-judgemental, connectivity

- more low-cost housing available
- free drugs for whatever those drugs were needed for (to prevent stealing, dependency etc.)
- Good quality food (notjunk food) local
- Shelter
 - Regardless of your behavior
 - Take care of each other
 - Ability to purchase home
 - Alternative housing -given a space in a shared environment, cooperative housing.
- Clothing -suitable for the weather.
- Emotional -means counseling, support workers, child social workers .
- Cleanup and maintenance of parks
- Civic duty
- Your contribution to the community is valued
- A concentration of efforts
- Less of a focus on material gain.
- Basic Health Care, medical, dental, optometrist, various health care options, preventative.
- Intergenerational education and living
- Activities for Children, Family Support, Parenting Support, Birth Control available, Free day-care 24hrs
- Know your neighbour
- Ability to decide one's own transportation
- Emphasis of prevention (family, friends)
- guaranteed liveable income
 - increase in funding
 - re-evaluation of where funding is going
 - minimum wage-liveable wage
- pride in oneself and home
- ability to work in the community, community gives back an (exchange of needs)
- community involvement, community garden, community cleanup
- Schools
 - more student support
 - more practical training for young people
 - adult learning programs -local

- training available for "in demand" local jobs
- increase in funding for local programs

Dialogue Topic: What would the Alberni Valley look like if everyone's basic human needs were met?

Convener: Gary Swan **Note Taker:** Gary Swann

Participants: Eric, Sally, Ken McRae, Terry, Robert Gunn, Bob Hargreaves

- no hunger
- Affordable housing for all
- opportunity to participate in decisions that impact upon daily life, participatory role.
- Choices - further education, job choice
- (Adults would be positive role models)
- Improved socio-economic ratings (n.b. recent health care indicators and Valley Score)
- Health Care - Doctors (4 more) wait lists(?) improve First Nations health access
- Preventative Health Care - promote, food prep, diet, reduced drug use
- Improved relations with First Nations.
- Need for Social Animator both with youth and young adults. (working at human level)
- Good Community Health Council Process
- Employment to return to (post grad youth)
- Food Supply - need for local food supply (transportation) n.b Farmers market and food distribution.
- Idea that all are part of whole - acceptance of all.
- Culture (note different definition of culture)
 - Arts
 - Home Grown/local culture
 - Creativity - increased opportunities
- Our society would be grounded in culture/family
- Safety
 - Public safety
 - Reduced crime (N.B. increased crime locally)
 - Drug problem (gone)
 - Improved neighbourhood cohesiveness
- New patterns of social relationships/interactions will be developed - more chance of knowing neighbours. Seniors - human side of municipal infrastructure will be replaced.
- Community vision
- Healthy leisure activities - as opposed to bar. (health aspects/mental health aspects/spiritual)
- More balanced population distribution by age.

Dialogue Topic: What would the Alberni Valley look like if everyone's basic human needs were met?

Convener: Gary Swan **Note Taker:** Bob Hargreaves

Participants: Eric, Sally, Ken McRae, Terry, Robert Gunn, Bob Hargreaves

- Transportation
- Affordable housing and housing choices
- Participation at community level
- Choices
- Social Economic conditions much improved
- Preventative Health Care (Addictions)

- Better First Nations relations
- Healthy People (nutrition savvy)
- Meaningful employment for educated kids to return to
- Self-Sustaining (food growth) self-gardening, buy local
- Cultural Events (entertainment) creativity.
- Acceptance
- Safety for all
- Healthy Leisure pursuits
- Economic Viability -healthy tax base.

Dialogue Topic: What would the Albemi Valley look like if everyone's basic human needs were met?

Convener: David Whitworth **Note Taker:** B. Stevenson

Participants: T. McEvay, Cathy Cross, Alexandra, Jack McLeman, Kenn Whiteman

In twenty years.....

- Providing quality of life for mental health patients, living normal lives supported by the Community rather than the Government.
- A young person can find fulfilling work and place in community / education doing a better job of producing productive adults/ broader range of skills -more life skills.
- Recycling is part of culture -recycling not only waste but usable items –gardens, clothing – sharing resources to minimized waste and provide for those who have less.
- Forgiveness is easier to get than permission.
- Health and social services are integrated to track well being of individuals from birth - elderly
- Network in place to support individuals at risk to establish viable lives.
- Greatest resource in Valley is our people.
- A leader in design and construction of environmentally safe ships for transport.
- To challenge our human nature to be more giving and caring of others – can we change our nature in 20 years?
- Redefine "wealth" to mean health, relationships and meaningful work.
- Redefine "education" to mean ability to recognize and pursue satisfying work and roles in this or any community.
- Young people graduate with a well developed sense of Social Responsibility (volunteerism, social service to others)
- Our culture (community) has a strong send of self esteem and social responsibility
- Sustainable: healthcare, education, employment , environment.

Dialogue Topic: What would the Albemi Valley look like if everyone's basic human needs were met?

Convener: David Whitworth **Note Taker:** K. Whiteman

Participants: T. McEvay, Cathy Cross, Alexandra, Jack McLeman, Kenn Whiteman

In twenty years.....

- We'll be looking after our own mentally ill.
- There will be lots of group homes
- There will be a variety of co-operatives in the community.
- There will be an education system that responds to the skills and capacity of the individual students.

- The present school system doesn't work for everyone.
- Students should know the basics of taxes, loans, credit cards, elementary contract work, voting etc.
- That everyone in the Valley is involved in recycling. An attitude of sharing resources.
- Alternate programs to Alternative Programs i.e. VAST
- Need to change the School Act.
- A constant interaction amongst community services.
- Womb to tomb service throughout life.
- Housing to Healthcare services to recreation services to co-operative services.
- No matter what we envision there will be casualties.
- Joining of different services for the benefit of citizens.
- P.A. will be a sustainable community based on a variety of new businesses and environment focus industry. Lots of new areas for economic diversity.
- Economic return, wealth will be generated by Pensions invested in Asia.
- People will become more resourceful
- There are lots of possibilities (i.e. Silicon Valley)
- Pioneer/design a green independent industry
- Need to challenge our human nature to become less filled with greed and more with caring.
- Need to look at the trade--- by changing expectations
- Teaching our kids that work is noble and that social responsibility is paramount
- A community that has a strong sense of itself.
- Sustainable employment, healthcare, education etc. etc.
- Communities that take a stand benefit from coming together in solidarity
- Go to where the homeless and marginalized gather.
- All things are connected (Nuchalnuth culture.)

Dialogue Topic: What would the Alberni Valley look like if everyone's basic human needs were met?

Convener: Jen, Steven, Penn, Ron, Esther, Sylvia
Note Taker: Penn

* "His-shuk is tswak" All things are connected.

* Balance, diversity

- More public transportation
- More families not just retirement
- Empty lots in downtown core as community gardens
- Connectedness, balance in all development i.e. waterfront to include single, detached, some low rise condos, affordable housing, green space, water access
- Affordable appropriate housing for all
- Easy access to advocacy
- "Popular Education" get those who don't vote to vote that their voice does count - store front.
- Countering poor bashing - education
- People would be valued in their character not their income.
- Guaranteed liveable income because it works and it is cheaper anyway
- Inclusive -participation in process by youth, First Nations.

* Build the sense of "ourness"

- Thriving economy not based on logging -raw log exports growing.

- FSC certification for all logging going on (Forest Stewardship Council) this is what those buying lumber want it only makes sense.
- Every child in this valley to have at the very least grade 12.
- North Island College offering much more diverse and creative programs that empower and enrich residents – arts, trades, programs in various fields.
- Everyone would have a "sense of place and community".

*Community Plan that responds to all the social determinates of health to address "Health" in the broader community sense.

- Various ways and means to home ownership
- Should own our own watershed
- Our Valley should control our own environment, not outside corporations, co-management resources with local First Nations i.e. sack and FSC certifications for models.
- People feeling good about their work, more flexible work options -and low overtime –4 day work week and other more creative work options – leading to higher participation in the work force.

*Diverse fresh based economy that does not damage the canopy, "Merv Wilkenson's Forest", herbal medicines, mushrooms, eco-tourism, industrial heritage tourism.

- Youth traveling out and coming back to live after a walkabout.
- Balance age spread, seniors, family, youth.
- Seniors, youth, family all have work, adequate income, everyone has a way of being visible and connected and valued in overall community mosaic.
- No one is oppressed or feels oppressed.
- Long term plan, not crisis response
- No more big box stores without a "village square"
- Life skills of empowerment for people who can't get out of the hole, access to work, work experiences, key to begin
- Everyone sees a possibility for themselves and feel it matters.
- Intentional finding ways for people to belong

Dialogue Topic: What would the Alberni Valley look like if everyone's basic human needs were met?

Convener:

Note Taker:

Participants: Jen, Steven, Penn, Ron, Esther, Sylvia

- No more clear cutting.
- Forest balance - nnnn over the forest
- Several community gardens
- More families in street
- Dedicated community gardens n core
- Enshrining principles of balance relationship
- Healthcare area - community of care, balanced resources for care, available for all families
- Easy access to advocacy and have a voice
- Participation in planning your community
- Dignity and opportunity
- Proactivating provision for building strengths and values
- Guaranteed liveable income
- Welcoming community
- Sustainability
- Central alternative message

- Every child has opportunity to access education through lifetime
- Education for learning-NIC –broadened mandate
- Adequate access to health resources -treatment for drug/alcohol
- Sense of culture - free to express culture and personal expression.
- Opportunities to move beyond -sickness to respond to wellness
- Provides opportunities for expression.
- Development of spiritual expression and return of investment.
- Home ownership a priority and control of environment
- Co-management model brought close to Port '
- Skilled population -choice to work.
- Reduced violence increased sense of safety and security.
- Increased opportunities to serve in the community.

Dialogue Topic: What would the Alberni Valley look like if everyone's basic human needs were met?

Convener: Rob Cole **Note Taker:** Bonnie

Participants: Janice Nairne, Rob Cole, Bev Denning, Patti Edwards, Tracy Smyth, Bonnie Ruttan, Pamela Day.

- Meaningful work -to be contributing something
- Basic food, adequate housing, clothing etc.
- Respect
- Sharing the load of manning committees
- Move from crisis mode to sustainable
- Growth in number of people involved in supporting
- All people equally able to access resources
- People know their neighbours and participate in neighbourhood gardens etc.
- Car co-op, public transportation improved so that residents can easily access services.
- Redford School field a community garden
- People who need services have a voice in and are heard.
- It has to come from the bottom and be the idea of the people living in poverty
- We've talked about single mothers, working poor, mentally ill but we haven't addressed the problem of drug addiction and alcoholism -those that do not have any desire to change their lives.
- There aren't the treatment centres that are needed
- There would need to be treatment provided and a good foster care system to care for children of parents who are in treatment
- You aren't going to redeem everyone or cure everyone even if you have a hospital on every corner
- We use so many resources on the most extreme cases
- We need to give priority to those who with some support can make changes
- There are obstacles in place that make it difficult to provide services to those who need them bureaucracy.
- Bureaucracy and rules would be applied with common sense.
- We will be a kindergarten, pre-school society –kind, caring
- Community co-ops, Worker's co-ops, Women's co-ops, housing co-ops.

Dialogue Topic: What would the Alberni Valley look like if everyone's basic human needs were met?

Convener: Rob Cole **Note Taker:** Pamela

Participants: Janice Naime, Rob Cole, Bev Denning, Patti Edwards, Tracy Smyth, Bonnie Ruttan, Pamela Day.

- Everyone would have something meaningful to contribute – something to get up for in the morning.
- Everyone would have enough food, adequate clean housing, respect
- Shares the load - get others to contribute
- Helping agencies not emergency crisis management but to sustaining and developing
- Everyone would be willing to pitch in and help their neighbour.
- All people would be equally able to access resources.
- Affordable day care.
- People would know their neighbours.
- Would have some community cars and bikes
- Community would have pods of services in neighbourhoods rather than a concentration of big box stores far away from where people live.
- Redford field for a community garden
- People who need the services will have input to the solutions.
- A way to match needs to available resources
- Identify resources and a way to get them to those who need them.
- We would know our neighbours and our neighbours needs and would meet them.
- Residential treatment centres.
- Better care for children
- Deal with the unredeemable in the most effective, efficient way.
- Don't spend all the resources on the most needy or focus on them primarily -but focus on those just up from them to keep them from falling. Provide a pathway for the most needy to access the resources if they show any improvement or capability.
- Helping agencies would be holistic not in silos under different ministries and budgets.
- Fund the basic human needs as a right.
- Bureaucracy/rules would be applied with common sense.
- Community co-op, housing co-ops etc.

When we have our draft vision

- Send someone down to the Bread of Life and other groups who are not reached by the normal media coverage.
- Have some catch phrases that people can remember and latch on to like "all things are connected."

Summary of Public Input

There is poverty in The Valley

- Knew someone who didn't even have heat in the middle of winter
- At work sees range of poverty -believes it is appalling
- People who try but can't earn living and those who can earn but don't try
- Disability applications is what I work to help people with and 95% of applicants don't want to be on it

It is not talked about and often denied

- Poverty not talked about in Port Alberni -denial
- Who are the poor? - Single moms/older people
- Racism -contributes to marginalization of many
- Tow situations –sustain those who can never support themselves and help those who need a hand to get out of poverty
- Poverty rates don't measure those who are under employed, like her daughter. Inability to understand the forms -EI, welfare.

We need some ways to increase awareness

- Letters to the editor or public meetings to bring perspective to public about poverty issue
- Research and circulate (newspapers/letters) information about levels (stats, etc.) of poverty and encourage public support for lobby to establish minimum living standards for the province
- regular articles in paper about "face of poverty" in Port Albemi
- Heightening awareness by linking community values to giving/volunteerism in our community

The poor are not well organized

- Those in poverty not internally organized
- Entitlement attitude -no recognition that things have changed
- How to engage those in need
- Bum-out -people will burnout if they don't have a stake in the outcome
- People who are living in poverty feel a disconnect to the community -lack of self esteem

People believe that caring for the poor is a community ethic

- We all should look after each other
- Basis of culture -taking care of all of our citizens
- Believes everyone has right to basics
- Thinks we need basic living income to sustain living
- Providing essential needs
- Lobby political leaders to adopt –action for minimum living standards
- People need basic needs met: food, shelter. Should be a basic human right.
- If basic needs (food, shelter) are not being met; it is impossible for people to move forward.
- More a sense of community; neighbours helping neighbours

Government response not adequate

- Volunteer Bureau needed, cancelled by Ministry of Human Resources

- Soup kitchens, lunch programs, etc. have allowed government to not provide more appropriate welfare rates
- Downloading of service costs
- Welfare system promotes deceit among recipients - such a humiliating experience
- Can't believe the range of things people come in to ask from the government or MLA. Neighbours helping neighbours.
- Lack of free recreation activities

There are things that the community can do without government

- Banks, big business to fund programs like Habitat for Humanity and Community Gardens
- There is always a reason why it won't work – need to turn it around so we look for solutions to make it happen
- Action: respond to actions that support or increase poverty
- Address issues that prevent poor from upgrading/education/working - child care, transportation - i.e. make it easier for people to help themselves
- safe injection sites
- Service provided to clients where they are

- Use recycling to fund programs for addressing poverty
 - Need a recycling and re-use station like Re-Store in Nanaimo to refurbish older or discarded items and resell them. Marginally employed people could staff it.
 - Some type of facility that would collect used working appliances, bathroom fixtures, etc. and recycling that could provide work for people and the items could go to those in poverty
 - City could waive property taxes for empty buildings that are then leased for next to nothing to groups for a recycling centre, etc.

- What about a Society of Organized Services here in town, with several advocacy volunteers to help people deal with the bureaucracy, from one central location.
 - An organization or group of people to advocate for people; community access centre
 - Seniors who can't maintain/repair their homes need advocacy and professional or volunteer help.
 - Maybe a few volunteers could be available to help several people at a time (small workshop) on EI info, forms, etc.
 - Change Women's Resources to Community Resources, like a Society of Organized Services.
 - People have trouble accessing services because they either don't know about them or are not capable due to lack of education or disability.
 - Some programs are designed to be difficult to access, i.e. 1-800#, websites or simply a difficult intimidating process
 - The organization can also lobby municipal, provincial and federal governments for better services
 - Maybe instead of Women's Resource Centre it should be a Community Resource Centre

Housing is a major issue

- See people walking all night -no place to sleep and see the rooms above Arlington are sitting empty

- Housing -hostels, etc. but need long term discussion
- Housing -second stage -independent supported
- Helping elderly single women with co-op housing
- What about Zellers? -make small apartments
- Find another residential centre
- NIMBY -for any 'social' housing project
- Drug & Alcohol Centre opposed by local citizens at Beaver Creek school

Self-sufficiency as a potential solution

- Self sufficiency in food-growing could be encouraged as in John Jeavom's How to Grow
- More Vegetables. Six million dollars in produce comes into the valley every year.
- Self-reliant work to grow food, city to donate land

Phase 4 - Vision

The ALBERNI VALLEY is a vibrant waterfront community at the heart of the West Coast that:

	Outlook 20/20 Process
is sustainable and environmentally responsible	<p>The citizenry of the Alberni Valley is committed to becoming the pinnacle of sustainable communities, protecting its air quality, natural waterways, and recreational areas. Natural resources are seen as a community asset and the responsibility of all, to be managed in a sustainable manner.</p> <p>The Alberni Valley offers a wide range of transportation options. A network of paths and trails that link the community, make it possible and practical to get around without a vehicle.</p> <p>There is a zero waste recycling program.</p>
is safe, caring and healthy	<p>The Alberni Valley is a safe community. It is free of violence, crime, abuse and discrimination. People of all ages and cultures interact together.</p> <p>The Alberni Valley is a caring community. Everyone supports each other in meeting human needs. This includes ensuring access to good nutrition, housing choices and employment.</p> <p>The Alberni Valley is a healthy community. We have state of the art medical and social facilities. Residents are active and take part in all aspects of community life.</p> <p>By creating a safe, caring, healthy community, every citizen is able to make a meaningful contribution to community well-being.</p>
has a robust and diverse economy	<p>The waterfront is our greatest asset. It is a showpiece for residents, tourists, arts, culture, industry and innovation.</p> <p>The City, Regional District and Port Authority work together to foster a broad range of businesses and industries. Their policies and legislation support energetic entrepreneurial activity, small business, agriculture and eco-tourism. The investment climate stimulates and encourages new businesses. There are ample education, training and employment opportunities for all.</p>
is welcoming, accessible and attractive	<p>The Alberni Valley is a welcoming community. Hospitality is extended to residents and visitors alike. The entrance to the community illustrates its open and welcoming attitude.</p> <p>The Alberni Valley is an accessible community. Everyone, regardless of age and ability, has access to all aspects of community life.</p> <p>The Alberni Valley is an attractive community. The community embraces and celebrates our natural, historical and geographic resources. It is a culturally rich community as a result of the diverse contributions of the arts.</p> <p>By creating a welcoming, accessible and attractive community everyone wants to call it home.</p>
is actively creating its future	<p>There is a common understanding by the community and its leaders about the path to the future. The community is fully engaged in the political process. Flourishing media highlight local issues and support in-depth exploration of crucial concerns.</p>

Phase 1	23-Sep-04	33		
	4-Oct-04	37		
	20-Oct-04	34		
	7-Nov-04	16		
	24-Nov-04	19	38 topics	139
Phase 2	2-Feb-05	47		
	7-Feb-05	44		91
Phase 3	13-Oct-05	106	Waterfront	
	20-Feb-06	53	Sustainability	
	13-May-06	34	Poverty	193
Phase 4	2-May-07	12	AEC	
	8-Aug-07	5	HI/TI	
	10-Sep-07		City	17
		440		440