



Report to City Council February 22nd, 2016

Brief Update on Selected Work from January 26th to present

Clutesi Haven Marina Upland RFP

- A limited number of inquiries have been received; no formal responses submitted yet.
- As Council will likely have seen, the Hupacasath First Nation is developing a proposal and is expected to submit a response by the deadline.
- RFP closes February 26th.

Alberni Valley Regional Airport Runway Extension

- ACRD Board has approved the issuing of the tender for this work.
- Assuming bids come in at or under budget, the work is expected to begin in April or May.
- Many meetings and conference calls in support of the initiative are taking place with stakeholders and (primarily) provincial government agencies.
- Grant applications will continue to be prepared as opportunities come along.

Islands Agriculture Show (IAS)

- The Alberni Valley had a strong presence at the IAS in Cowichan Feb 12th & 13th partly in preparation for our hosting of the 2017 Show.
- The Alberni Valley contingent debriefed the 2016 Show last Tue and is beginning to organize for 2017 (Feb 3rd & 4th) in earnest.

Commercial Revitalization Tax Exemption Bylaw (CRTEB)

- As promised for this meeting, a draft of a Bylaw for all commercial areas not currently covered by the existing Bylaw has been developed by the City Clerk, City Planner and EDM and is presented for Council's consideration.
- An amendment to the existing CRTEB is also proposed in order to make private properties in Harbour Quay and City-owned land in the Uptown eligible for incentives.
- Given business owner responses during the Business Walks in October, a façade improvement program is also discussed in the CRTEB report.

SPROUT

- As promised for this meeting, a report on the proposed SPROUT Program is included.

Ongoing Initiatives

- Attraction of 2nd Component to High-Value Wood-Biomass Cluster
- Attraction of Water-Intensive Industry
- Re-Branding

Pat Deakin, Economic Development Manager