



Monthly Report to City Council March 29<sup>th</sup>, 2016

**Brief Update on Selected Work from February 22<sup>nd</sup> to present**

Clutesi Haven Marina Upland RFP

- No responses fully satisfied the terms of the RFP
- The Hupacasath First Nation did submit a full expression of interest along with a request for additional time to prepare a proposal.
- Given the situation, a decision has been made to provide the Hupacasath as well as a number of other parties who declared interest in the RFP until June 30<sup>th</sup> 2016 to submit a Feasibility Study/Business Case proposal for a marquee development on site.
- This decision was arrived at during the Port Authority/City Working Group meeting Tuesday March 22<sup>nd</sup>.

Alberni Valley Regional Airport Runway Extension

- 9 qualified bids were submitted for the airport runway extension and all were below the \$6 million provided for in the ACRD borrowing bylaw.
- A revised Business Case is being prepared given several new developments with the Coulson Group and the interest in the project from BC Emergency Health Services and other Island Health divisions.
- A grant application is being made to the BC Air Access Program for medium intensity lighting at the airport.

Façade Improvement Program

- Six expressions of interest have been received in this program from local building owners, some of whom own more than one building.
- Lori Camire at Community Futures has generously offered to do much of the research required to arrive at suitable criteria for this program and that is being done with the intention of having something for Council in April.

55+ Lifestyle Show in Victoria

- Economic Development Assistant Stephanie Stevens attended this show to showcase Port Alberni as Vancouver Island's Most Affordable Community.
- The Centennial Belles were also in attendance at our invitation to promote the Jane Austin Festival.
- Our booth was well received
- Thanks to our Community Services Department (Information Services as well as Parks, Recreation & Heritage), the Alberni Valley Chamber of Commerce and the following businesses for assisting our efforts to be ready for the show:
  - Home Hardware (loan of popcorn machine to draw attendees)
  - Graphics Factory (production of banner)
  - Magic Moments (name badges)

Pat Deakin, Economic Development Manager