



February 23, 2015 Report to City Council
Work From January 21st to February 18th, 2015

I have remained focused on the following projects:

1. Alberni Valley Regional Airport (ACRD)
 - Immediate Goal is to obtain funding for runway improvements and lighting
 - Intermediate Goal is to grow aerospace industry here
 - Build Canada application was submitted February 18, 2015
 - Presentation has been made to Community Forest Legacy Committee
2. Fisheries Stewardship Centre (WCA)
 - Intermediate Goal is to establish an education centre/tourist attraction at Harbour Quay
 - Have started process for request of text amendment to zoning at Quay
 - Stage 2 application has been submitted to ICET
3. Two (unrelated) wood-biomass high-value products companies (PS)
 - Immediate Goal is to land both companies in Port Alberni
 - Currently assisting one company with environmental approval process
 - Currently assisting one company with location issues
4. Attraction of Young People/Young Families to Alberni Valley (CPA)
 - Goal is to increase population and utilize existing facilities
 - Began targeting young people through Heart of Vancouver Island in November
 - Intensifying focus on 'lifestyle' amenities
 - Interviewing new residents for assistance with best medium and message
5. District Energy Project
 - Intermediate Goal is to create a non-tax revenue source for the City, reduce GHG emissions, capture energy expenditures and carbon tax offsets in the community.
 - Options for proceeding with the project are in front of Council for a decision

Some other matters of note:

6. Commercial Fishing (Processing Industry) workshop Jan 27 & 28 (CPA)
 - Workshop focus was seafood processing training and recruitment issues
 - Speakers from Alaska, Maritimes & Oregon were here
 - Immediate Goal for processors is to address labour shortages
 - Ultimate Goal is for additional trades training locally through North Island College
7. Islands Agriculture Show (ACRD)
 - Immediate Goal was to increase awareness of this sector in the Alberni Valley
 - Intermediate Goal is to attract new farmers to the Alberni Valley
 - Ultimate Goal is to have this sector thrive as it does in the Cowichan & Comox Valleys
 - The Alberni Valley booth at the Feb 13th & 14th event in Courtenay was very well-received
 - Our booth volunteers are thinking we could host the show in 2016

8. Economusee Initiative (CPA)

- Immediate Goal was to learn about marketing opportunities through this group
 - We hosted a visit from them to the McLean Mill on January 27th

9. Provincial Nominee Program (CPA)

- A foreign investor who has purchased a local business has not yet been approved for a work permit so we have been intervening on their behalf

10. Positive Publicity for Port Alberni (various)

- Eight young people from our community are finalists for the Top 20 Under 40 Business & Community Achievement Awards on Vancouver Island: Congratulations to Kama Money; James Edwards; Rebecca Palmer; Drew Bradley; Eric Waldriff; Michelle Lapointe; Kris Patterson and Jolleen Dick
- Two Port Alberni businesses have made it into the Top 5 of their respective categories in the Small Business BC Awards: Congratulations to Cam Appleton of 'My Alberni App' who is in the Best Emerging Entrepreneur category and Dan Savard & Bouchra Zouhou of the 'Swept Away Inn' who are in the Best Concept Category

The acronyms at the end of each numbered initiative indicate the organization that is the champion for it: ACRD is Alberni-Clayoquot Regional District; CPA is City of Port Alberni; WCA is West Coast Aquatics; PS is Private Sector.



Pat Deakin
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