



Monthly Report to City Council September 12th, 2016

Brief Update on Work in Progress July 28th to present

New Resident, Visitor and Business Attraction

- Hosted and toured two small groups of investors
- Toured Island North Film Commission reps to potential locations for feature film
- Hosted and toured independent film location scout building data base on Port Alberni
- Hosted and toured CTV production team working on Port Alberni commercial
- Met with Island Health to discuss approaches to recruitment of Emergency Room nurses
- Arrangements for October 22nd and 23rd Johnston Road charrette in progress
- Debriefed respective seasons w/ owner & staff of kiteboard school and flyboard business
- Debriefed decision of tech company to move to Victoria from here
- Wrote letter of support for Pacific Coast University expansion
- Reviewed challenges to potential home-based business
- Assisted entrepreneur's review of possibilities at Tye Landing
- Refined approach to high-value, wood biomass cluster
- Responded to potential buyer's concerns about development issues
- Assisted research of potential developer for small acreage lots in ACRD
- Debriefed perceptions of new residents to Port Alberni
- Wrote articles for Business Examiner
- Supported Community Futures delivery of façade improvement program

Notes:

- Y Factor's recommendations re Google search rankings issues due Sept 13th
- Port Alberni has been selected as pilot community for Export Assistance program
- The Province of British Columbia now has \$9.6 million in Canada-BC Job Grant funding available to help employers provide skills training to current or new employees. Employers and organizations acting on behalf of employers can apply now for skills training funding with start dates between Oct. 1, 2016, and Dec. 31, 2016.

Canada-B.C. Job Grant is an employer-driven, cost-sharing partnership between the federal and provincial governments as well as employers. Governments provide two-thirds of the total training cost for an employee up to \$10,000 per person to offset the cost of training, with the employer contributing one-third of the cost of training.

Information on eligibility criteria and the application process is available on WorkBC's website at: <https://www.workbc.ca/canadabcjobgrant>

Eligible costs include tuition and training fees, mandatory student fees, textbooks, software and other required training materials, and examination fees.

Pat Deakin, Economic Development Manager