

Report to Council
Monday, May 16, 2011

Councillor Gladys Noddin

May 4 –
Watershed study –
Financial Plan mtg.

May 5 –
Queen Charlotte Community Club AGM

May 7 –
OCP public consultation mtg. in the EA Ross room (1:00 p.m.- 5:00 p.m.)

May 9 –
Left on the ferry at 11:00 a.m.

May 11 –
9:00 a.m. : CCN mtg. (see notes attached)
1:30 p.m. : Panel *Northern Transportation Corridor*

Don Krusel – P.R. Port Authority

- 40% of the GDP (Gross Domestic Product) is directly related to the export trade
- Phase II of the Fairview Terminal is scheduled to begin by the end of 2012
- Ridley Island Terminal is scheduled for a major expansion in the near future to accommodate more coal and grain

Lonnie Kubas – CN business operations director

- Because of the ‘innovative’ private car strategy, they are planning Phase 2 expansion of rail service within Prince Rupert in 2012

Les Waldie – Prince George Airport Authority

- The expansion of the airstrip to accommodate any size international aircraft has had its challenges. They have found that they need another parallel taxi way; bigger fuel trucks; a hydrant fuel storage facility. This is all being planned in a 10⁺ year strategy.

Tim McEwan – Initiatives Prince George

- Talked about the ‘Through the Gateway’ report 2011
- Stated that PG is a sustainable, knowledge based community connected to the world.

Q & A's:

3:15 p.m. : *Transportation Roundtable Report & Group Discussion*
Mayor Dan Rogers, City of Prince George

- The team kept emphasizing the importance of the Asian markets
- Complained about BC Ferries route 10A
- Felt that “Team North” could be led by the NCLGA

May 12 –
8:00 a.m. : *Opening Ceremonies*

9:40 a.m. : Business Session I

10:00 a.m. : Northwest Regional Hospital Board mtg. with Northern Health re: the QC Hospital replacement project

12:00 noon : lunch with keynote speaker Mr. Bruce Vincent *re: sustainable forestry.*

1:40 p.m. : Panel Session: Grow Ops in the North –

- They are bad.

2:45 p.m. : Minister *Ida Chong, Ministry of Community Services*

- Gas tax agreement is still in place with Ottawa – UBCM administers the transfers – it will continue
- Climate change and carbon tax: \$3.8 million was returned in 2010
- Stimulus fund: deadline extended to October 31 but will not likely to be extended beyond that time. So, get your proposals in!
- The Strategic Investment Fund will remain the same.
- A guideline book for municipal elections will be ready and available for the 2014 elections and will be reflected in the Local Government Act. (a) In 2014 the elections will be in October instead of November. (b) paid municipal volunteers (eg, firefighters) will be able to run for office and still maintain their ‘other’ job.
- Towns For Tomorrow Programme: all submitted applications are still under consideration but the programme is 2x over subscribed at this time.
- All ministries are looking for feedback to their various programmes so that they can advocate to continue the old ones or design new ones.

3:15 p.m.: Business session 3

5:00 p.m.: *Northern Medical Programs Trust AGM*

May 13 –

8:00 a.m. : *What’s New in the BC Provincial Natural Resource Agencies?*

8:30 a.m. : *Partnering with Communities to Support Primary Health Care*

9:50 a.m. : *Northern Development Initiative Program updates*

10:30 a.m. : *Workshops*

Food Security:

Definition: Food security is generally understood as the development of a community food system in which food production, processing, distribution and consumption are integrated to enhance the environment, economic, social and nutritional health of a specific place. A working definition is, “community food security exists when all citizens obtain a safe, personally acceptable, nutritious diet through a sustainable food system that maximizes healthy choices, community self-reliance and equal access for everyone” (Bellows and Hamm 2003)

12 noon: lunch with keynote speaker – Dr. John MacDonald – re: climate change

2:15 p.m.: *BC Parks: Aiming for Accessibility*

- Tao Hill boardwalk to the Blow Hole and up the hill were featured several times throughout the talk.
- Designs of picnic tables were shown
- Adequate turning spaces for large and small RV’s
- Interpretive material in several languages – according to the prevailing clientele

3:20 p.m. : *Sustainability and Green Buildings for Local Governments (LEEDS®)*

4:00 p.m. : Business Session 4

Thank you for allowing me to attend this conference. As always, there were things to be learned, people to meet and questions to be asked.

May 16, 2011

Financial Plan special meeting

