

Council Report
October 20, 2008
Councillor Gladys Noddin

1. Prior to leaving the province for a family get together in south western Ontario, I attended a board meeting of the Vancouver Island Regional Library in Nanaimo. As with all organizations and boards, VIRL has been hit with the economic downturn in our global economy. Even before this current financial crisis the *strategic replacement and refurbishment plan* was under review. Since the hiring of a new executive administrator and the election of a new chairman of the board, current operational policies and procedures have been under scrutiny. The budget and budget statements have been thoroughly examined with the result being that a reporting system which is more easily read and understood by the board members has been instituted. All these things were discussed and explained to the members present.

The planning committee, of which I am a member, meets at least 3-4 weeks prior to the regular board meeting. Because of the expense to fly me to and from Nanaimo, I attend these meetings via telephone. It is not ideal. But, it is better than nothing.

The regular board meetings happen every 2 months.

2. Sandwiched between the VIRL board meeting and my travelling to Windsor to bury my brother, I attended the UBCM in Penticton with Mayor Kulesha and Councillor Martin. The UBCM is a vital way to network with our provincial counterparts and to take our community concerns to the provincial ministers and/or their aides. Lobbying for our share of health care dollars, communication infrastructure, clean drinking water and reliable transportation alternatives were some of the things that we discussed with the bureaucrats from Victoria.

3. Immediately upon returning home, I was involved with the exit interview process of our current CAO. Andrew, his wife and family will be missed when they leave us. I hope that they know that we all wish them good fortune for their future.

4. The Village of QC has been working closely together with our neighbours, the Skidegate Band council and the CHN on issues of mutual concern. Mayor Kulesha and I attended a meeting called by the CHN last Tuesday where elected officials from all of the communities and the directors from all of the District areas were in attendance.

5. On Thursday, we had a Committee of the Whole meeting.

6. And, finally, today there was a meeting of all elected officials at the Tlell Fire hall to listen to a presentation from the trustees and board of the Gwaii Forest Charitable Trust. After the presentation, there was dialogue to make sure that everyone understood the message that they wanted to convey.

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