

**Village of Queen Charlotte
AGENDA**

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT the regular meeting of the Village of Queen
Charlotte Council will be held on Monday, December 19, 2011 at 7:30 pm
at the Village of Queen Charlotte Office

1. Meeting called to order:

2. Agenda Addition and/or Deletions:

3. Approval of the Agenda:

4. Adoption of the Minutes:

4.1 Village of Queen Charlotte Special Council Minutes

December 1, 2011

4.2 Village of Queen Charlotte Council Minutes December 5, 2011

5. Business Arising from the Minutes:

6. Proclamations:

7. Delegates and Petitions:

8. Inquiries from the Public Regarding the Approved Agenda Items:

9. Correspondence:

For Information:

a.9.1 Emergency Social Services Association (ESSA) – Re: Shutting down
it's operations before July 1, 2012

a.9.2 The Globe and Mail - Re: Ottawa expects same wireless service in
rural, urban areas

a.9.3 Northern Health News Release – Re: Northern Health Board
continues focus on quality, integrated services for northerners

a.9.4 North Central Local Government Association (NCLGA) Connector,
December issue

a.9.5 Union of BC Municipalities (UBCM) –Re: Auditor General for Local
Government Act (Bill 20, 2011)

a.9.6 Union of BC Municipalities (UBCM) –Re: Update RCMP Contract
Negotiations

a.9.7 Village of Slokan – Re: Canada- European Union Comprehensive
Economic & Trade Agreement Negotiations

For Action:

- b.9.1** Moresby Island Management Committee (MIMC) – Re: Letter of support to the Community Recreation Program for \$97,797.00 for the completion of the Grey Bay Site Renovation Project
- b.9.2** Misty Isles Economic Development Society (MIEDS) – Re: 2011 NDIT Community Report and request for 2012 Funding
- b.9.3** Gwaii Tel Society – Re: City West Cable & Telephone

**10. Reports of Committee, COTW and Commissions:
From the Committee of the Whole December 12, 2011**

R2011/54/04 MOVED by Councillor Olsen, seconded by Councillor Cranston to Recommend that Council purchase the following equipment for the Community Park Tot Park area:

1. model # 704 S023 tot park equipment from Miracle for an estimated cost, delivered and set up, of \$56,100.00; and,
2. a swing set model # 8415 with 4 bucket swings and 2 belt swings up to a cost equal to 15% of the cost for the tot park equipment.

CARRIED

R2011/54/05 MOVED by Councillor Olsen, seconded by Councillor Martin to Recommend that Council send a second letter to the Haida Gwaii Management Council stating that Queen Charlotte Council opposes the provision to harvest in the community watershed, five percent (5%) over five (5) years allowable cut, as the cumulative effect is too large and also that allowing the entire five percent (5%) to be harvested in one of the five years is not acceptable.

CARRIED

R2011/54/05 MOVED by Councillor Johnson, seconded by Councillor Cranston to Recommend to Council that:

1. the CAO Report, WestCCAP Grant Project – Seawalk Status and Options, Dated December 12, 2011, be received;
2. the Seawalk around the Community Club Property to the library parking lot be constructed with paving stones at an estimated cost of \$90,000, and,
3. that the proposal to begin the Seawalk on Oceanview Drive, approximately 100 feet east of the entry to the Community Club Property for an estimated cost of \$43,000 for fill and construction, be approved subject to the Village receiving approval from the Department of Fisheries and Oceans, with the balance of the additional costs up to \$20,000 be expended from Federal Gas Funds.

CARRIED

11. Bylaws:

12. Unfinished Business:

13. New Business:

13.1 BC Community Recreation Grant Application for Community Park Development

Recommendation: “That Council approve an application for a BC Community Recreation Grant for up to \$400,000 to complete the Queen Charlotte Community Park with the Villages portion of the project costs to come from the following sources:

- a. approved Gwaii Trust Grant - \$100,000
- b. BC Hydro- Tree Re-Greening Grant - \$5000
- c. New Horizons For Seniors Grant - \$25,000 if approved
- d. and, other grants that may be received”

13.2 SeaWalk: Tender for Pathway Around the Community Club – information to be provided

14. Notice of Motion:

15. Reports of Mayor, Council Members and Staff:

16. Inquiries from the Public:

17. Motion to Exclude the Public and move In Camera under the Community Charter Section 90(1)(c) Personnel

18. Adjournment:

Village of Queen Charlotte
December 1, 2011

Minutes of the Special Council Meeting of the Village of Queen Charlotte held on
Thursday December 1, 2011 at 3:30pm at the Village of Queen Charlotte Office

PRESENT:

Council:

Mayor C. Kulesha
Councillor L. Johnson
Councillor G. Martin
Councillor G. Noddin
Councillor Elect Cranston

Staff:

B. Beamish, Chief Administrative Officer
D. Uliana, Chief Financial Officer

Regrets:

Councillor K. Olsen

1. CALL TO ORDER:

Mayor Kulesha called the meeting to order at 3:35 pm

2. Reinvestment of Term Deposit

R2011/52/02 MOVED by Councillor Johnson, seconded by Councillor Noddin that the report of the CFO on Term Deposits, dated December 1, 2011 be received.
CARRIED

R2011/52/03 MOVED by Councillor Johnson, seconded by Councillor Noddin that Council authorize investing \$1.2 million in term deposits with Northern Savings Credit Union at 2.5% for a five year term with the option to have access to funds as needed and to retain \$350,000 in the chequing account for operating purposes.
CARRIED

R2011/52/04 MOVED by Councillor Martin, seconded by Councillor Noddin
"That the Municipal Finance Authority be invited to come to Haida Gwaii and make a presentation to the municipal councils for Port Clements, Masset and Queen Charlotte"
CARRIED

R2011/52/05 MOVED by Councillor Martin, seconded by Councillor Noddin
"That Councillor Leslie Johnson attend the 2012 annual general meeting of the Municipal Finance authority to be held on March 29, 2012, in Victoria."
CARRIED

3. Adjournment

R2011/52/06 MOVED by Councillor Noddin to adjourn.
Meeting Adjourned at 4.25pm
Next meeting Monday, December 5, 2011

Mayor C. Kulesha, Chair

D. Uliana, Recording

Village of Queen Charlotte

December 5, 2011

Minutes of the Council Meeting of the Village of Queen Charlotte held at 7.30 p.m. on Monday, December 5, 2011 at the Queen Charlotte Village Office, Queen Charlotte, B.C.

Prior to the commencement of the Council meeting of December 5, 2011 the Oath of Office was administered by Bill Beamish, Chief Administrative Officer and Debra Uliana, Chief Election Officer:

Oath of Office, Mayor – Carol Jill Kulesha
Oath of Office, Councillor – Ellen Cranston
Oath of Office, Councillor – Leslie Ruth Johnson
Oath of Office, Councillor – Gregory Martin
Oath of Office, Councillor – Kristen Charles Olsen

Prior to Adoption

PRESENT:

Council:

Mayor C. Kulesha
Councillor Cranston
Councillor L. Johnson
Councillor G. Martin
Councillor K. Olsen

Staff:

B. Beamish, Chief Administrative Officer
D. Uliana, Chief Financial Officer
S. Brown, Financial/Legislative Clerk

Public- 20
Media -2

1. CALL TO ORDER:

Mayor Kulesha called the meeting to order at 7:37 pm

2. Agenda Addition and/or Deletions:

3. Approval of the Agenda:

R2011/53/02 MOVED by Councillor Johnson, seconded by Councillor Cranston to adopt the agenda as circulated.

CARRIED

4. Adoption of the Minutes:

4.1 Village of Queen Charlotte Council Minutes November 21, 2011
R2011/53/03 MOVED by Councillor Martin, seconded by Councillor Olsen to adopt the Village of Queen Charlotte minutes of November 21, 2011 as amended.

CARRIED

5. Business Arising from the Minutes

6. Proclamations:

7. Delegates and Petitions:

8. Inquiries from the Public Regarding the Approved Agenda Items:

9. Correspondence:

For Information:

a.9.1 Imagine Healthy Northern Communities grant approved
R2011/53/04 MOVED by Councillor Olsen, seconded by Councillor Johnson that the Imagine Healthy Northern Communities grant that will assist in the planning to develop a Seniors Fitness and Activity Area in the Community Park was approved be received and filed.

CARRIED

a.9.2 Northern Health – Re: UBCM meeting September 27, 2011
R2011/53/05 MOVED by Councillor Martin, seconded by Councillor Cranston that the letter dated November 14, 2011, from Cathy Ulrich, President and CEO of Northern Health – Re: UBCM meeting September 27, 2011 be received and filed.

CARRIED

10. Reports of Committee, COTW and Commissions:

From the Committee of the Whole November 28, 2011

R2011/53/06 MOVED by Councillor Martin, seconded by Councillor Olsen that the recommendation of the Committee of the Whole, November 28, 2011, that the review of the Northern Gateway project including Community Hearings, be adjourned until full and adequate responses are provided to previously unanswered questions and pending studies/reports and promised documents are released and available for review be approved.

CARRIED

R2011/53/07 MOVED by Councillor Johnson, seconded by Councillor Cranston that the recommendation of the Committee of the Whole, November 28, 2011, that a letter be sent to Len Munt, District Manger requesting:

1. that the BC Government owned vacant lots across from 805 Oceanview Drive be donated to the Village of Queen Charlotte for a Park; and,
2. that the 3 bay garage on 3rd Ave, Forestry Hill, owned by the Province of BC be donated to the Village of Queen Charlotte and used by the Queen Charlotte Emergency Planning Committee for meetings, emergency shelter and storage of equipment be approved.

CARRIED

11. Bylaws:

12. Unfinished Business:

Haida Gwaii Semester Marketing Campaign

R2011/53/08 Moved by Councillor Martin, Seconded by Councillor Olsen that resolution R2011/46/21 of the Regular Council meeting, November 7, 2011 "That Council supports the Marketing Initiative application to Northern Development for \$4,285 toward the 'Haida Gwaii Semester

Marketing Campaign' from the Queen Charlotte allocation of the Northwest Regional Development Account." be rescinded.

CARRIED

13. New Business:

13.1 Village of Queen Charlotte Council Meeting Schedule 2012
R2011/53/09 MOVED by Councillor Olsen, seconded by Councillor Cranston that the Village of Queen Charlotte Council Meeting Schedule 2012 be approved.
CARRIED

13.2 Appointments

R2011/53/10 MOVED by Councillor Johnson, seconded by Councillor Cranston that the 2012 appointments be accepted as follows:

- 2012 Vancouver Island Regional Library Board (VIRL) – Councillor Martin
- 2012 Northern Development Initiative Trust (NDIT) - Mayor Kulesha
- 2012 Northwest Regional Hospital District (NWRHD) – Mayor Kulesha
- 2012 BC Ferries Regional Advisory Committee – Councillor Cranston
- 2012 Misty Isles Economic Development Society (MIEDS) – Mayor Kulesha
- 2012 Skeena Queen Charlotte Regional District (SQCRD) – Mayor Kulesha
- 2012 Community Co-ordinated Response to Violence against Women – Councillor Johnson
- 2012 University of BC Regional Advisory Committee (UNBC) – Councillor Johnson
- 2012 Haida Gwaii Recreation Committee – Councillor Olsen

CARRIED

13.3 Appointment of Fire Chief and members to the VQC Volunteer Fire Department

R2011/53/11 MOVED by Councillor Olsen, seconded by Councillor Johnson that the report of the CAO on the Fire Department, dated November 24, 2011 be received.

CARRIED

R2011/53/12 MOVED by Councillor Cranston, seconded by Councillor Martin that pursuant to sections 3 and 8 of Village of Queen Charlotte Bylaw 20-2008, the following members of the QCC Volunteer Fire Prevention Society be appointed to the Village of Queen Charlotte Volunteer Fire Department:

Lawrence Duke
Sean Muise
Brad Schultz
Steve Reece
Al Bond
Kerry Laidlaw
Louis Bourcet
Rick Baerg

Chief
Deputy Chief
Regular Firefighter Captain
Regular Firefighter Captain
Regular Firefighter Captain
Regular Firefighter Captain and Dispatcher
Regular Firefighter Captain
Regular Firefighter

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Tyson Wolnowski	Regular Firefighter
Jacques Morin	Regular Firefighter
Michael Mayr	Regular Firefighter
Jason Borrowman	Regular Firefighter
Marvin Boyd	Regular Firefighter
Dave Argument	Auxiliary Firefighter
James Hilgemann	Auxiliary Firefighter
Jon Dunsmore	Auxiliary Firefighter
Lloyd Mackenzie	Auxiliary Firefighter
Bill Galt	Auxiliary Firefighter
Faye Laidlaw	Dispatcher
Sheila Nelson	Dispatcher
Lee-Al Nelson	Dispatcher
Sharon Schultz	Dispatcher

CARRIED

R2011/53/13 MOVED by Councillor Johnson, seconded by Councillor Martin that pursuant to section 4 of Bylaw 20-2008, Lawrence 'Larry' Duke be appointed Fire Chief, and, be an employee of the Village of Queen Charlotte while so appointed.

CARRIED

R2011/53/14 MOVED by Councillor Cranston, seconded by Councillor Johnson that that the Mayor and Chief Administrative Officer be authorized by council to negotiate and sign a short term lease or rental agreement with the QCC Volunteer Fire Prevention Society for use of apparatus, equipment and the fire hall for a nominal fee.

CARRIED

R2011/53/15 MOVED by Councillor Olsen, seconded by Councilor Martin that Council, Staff and the Directors of the QCC Volunteer Fire Prevention Society continue to work on the terms of a trust agreement with respect to the transfer of apparatus, equipment and the fire hall to the Village of Queen Charlotte.

CARRIED

13.4 Committees:

R2011/53/16 MOVED by Councillor Johnson, seconded by Councillor Olsen that the Committees will be accepted as follows:

- Finance Committee – Councillor Johnson
- PW, Parks, Recreation and Youth – Councillors Martin and Olsen
- Open Government – Ellen Cranston, Councillor
- General Government - Mayor Kulesha
- Enbridge Northern Gateway Project – Councillor Olsen
- Energy Committee to assist with the Climate Action Plan implementation – Councillor Martin

CARRIED

13.5 List of Deputy Mayors for 2012

R2011/53/17 MOVED by Councillor Cranston, seconded by Councillor Johnson that the list of Deputy Mayors for 2012 will be accepted as follows:

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December 5, 2011 – March 2012 – Councillor Martin
April – June 2012 - Councillor Johnson
July –September 2012 - Councillor Olsen
October – December 2012 - Councillor Cranston

CARRIED

13.6 Renewal of memberships:
R2011/53/18 MOVED by Councillor Martin, seconded by Councillor Johnson that the 2012 Renewal of Memberships be accepted as follows:

- Government Financial Officers Association of BC (GFOABC),
- Union of BC Municipalities (UBCM)
- Local Government Management Association (LGMA)
- BC Waste Water Association (BCWWA)
- North Central Municipal Association (NCMA)
- Environmental Operators Certification Program (EOCP)
- Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM)
- CivicInfo BC
- Municipal Insurance Association
- Municipal Finance Authority

CARRIED

13.7 Line of Credit – Northern Savings Credit Union
R2011/53/19 MOVED by Councillor Johnson, seconded by Councillor Martin that the Recommendation to:
Resolve that the Village of Queen Charlotte maintain a Line-of-Credit in the amount of \$975,000 for 2012 with Northern Savings Credit Union be approved.

CARRIED

14. Notice of Motion:

15. Reports of Mayor, Council Members and Staff:

Mayor Kulesha:

- We are beginning our 6th year as a municipality as well as a new term of office for our council
- This past term we concentrated on our Official Community Plan Our water system is on line with clean, clear, tasteful water. We now care for the cemetery and we have policy and procedure in place for roads and snow removal. We lobbied successfully for cell phone service, staffing lighthouses for boaters and bringing Enbridge review to Haida Gwaii.
- We welcome the members of the QCC Volunteer Fire Prevention Society to be appointed to the Village of QC Fire Department
- We will continue to lobby for the early build of the new QC General Hospital and Health Centre.
- Presented Gladys Noddin with a gift for her 2 terms on Council and to acknowledge all she brings to our community
(full report available on website and at the Village office)

Councillor Johnson:

- Attended the Committee of the Whole November 28, 2011

- The Island Women's Society will meet Tuesday December 6, 2011 at 7.00pm to watch "Polytechnique" followed by a candle light vigil
- Attended the Annual Council and Staff Christmas dinner

Councillor Martin:

- Attended the Committee of the Whole November 28, 2011
- Telephone conference with UNBC Regional Advisory Committee
- Attended the Annual Council and Staff Christmas dinner
- Attended the AGM for Gwaii Trust in Port Clements

Councillor Olsen:

- Hosted the Enbridge conference call on November 23, 2011
- Attended the Committee of the Whole November 28, 2011
- Attended the Annual Council and Staff Christmas dinner

Councillor Cranston:

- Commented that she has already attended a Committee of the Whole, A Finance meeting and the Village of QC Christmas dinner. Happy to be officially sworn in tonight and wanted to thank Gladys Noddin and thanks for the votes.

CAO:

- Confirming Monday December 12, 2011 is a Committee of the Whole at 4.30pm, followed by a break then council will have an Elected Officials Orientation
- We are looking for donations of LED lights for Spirit Square, ad will be in the Observer

CFO:

- The investments discussed at the Special council meeting of December 1, 2011 have been re-invested

16. Inquiries from the Public:

- Request form Sean Muise, Stewardship Forester to receive a list of plants that have been planted at Spirit Square – 2 were invasive plants
 - CAO will send the plant list to Sean
- Comment that Forestry Hill should be listed as 3rd Avenue in future correspondence

Observer

- Can you clarify the Northern Gateway Project resolution R2011/51/04 and can he request a copy of the letters that were sent
 - Copies of the letters will be sent to the Observer in the morning

17. Adjournment:

R2011/53/20 MOVED by Councillor Olsen that the meeting be adjourned.

Meeting Adjourned at 8.23 pm

Next meeting Monday, December 12, 2011

Mayor C. Kulesha, Chair

D. Uliana, Recording



Emergency Social Services Association (ESSA)

NOVEMBER 16, 2011

P.O. Box 50029, South Slope RPO, Burnaby BC, V5J 5G3

Phone 604-435-1442 Fax 1-866-824-7505

execdirector@essa.ca

www.essa.ca

The 2011 Board of Directors of the Emergency Social Services Association (ESSA) regret to announce that ESSA will be shutting down its operations before July 1, 2012, and after the 6th Annual ESSA Conference in Prince George, on May 5, 2012. ESSA was founded in 1988, and has provided training, support, and advocacy for more than 5,000 Emergency Social Service (ESS) volunteers across the province. ESS volunteers provide essential goods and services such as food, lodging, clothing, and emotional support to evacuees from disasters in British Columbia, as mandated by legislation.

A number of years ago, ESSA's funding was significantly reduced due to the loss of a government contract. Since then, ESSA has taken on smaller, short term contracts which have helped to keep the association going, but never quite meeting the financial needs of the organization entirely. In an attempt to overcome this funding shortfall and continue ESSA's operations, we engaged a professional fundraising company in 2006/7. Also, in 2009/10 ESSA purchased a license to utilize commercial fundraising software which provided 60 funding options appropriate to ESSA, unfortunately, despite applications to all of those organizations, none of the fundraising efforts came to fruition. Operationally, ESSA significantly cut paid staff time, moved operations to a home-based office and adopted many other cost cutting measures. These measures proved insufficient. In the last several months it has become clear that, in the absence of guaranteed and ongoing funding, ESSA and its programs are no longer financially sustainable.

It is especially difficult to fold ESSA at this time in light of our recent accomplishments. Over the past several years, even with the funding cuts, the association initiated and maintained both online and in person advisory forums, an annual conference, as well as the administration of the National Municipal ESS Network. ESSA managed provincial ESS training at the request of the Provincial Emergency Program (PEP) and obtained and distributed ESS supplies to ESS Teams throughout the province. All of these initiatives were successful and we hope that many will continue in some manner, either through funding by Emergency Management BC (formerly the Provincial Emergency Program) or informally through the ESS community.

We regret deeply that ESS volunteers and communities will lose the support and services that ESSA provided over the last 23 years. It is our hope that we have contributed to the

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strength and ongoing success of the ESS teams within BC and that some of the initiatives we have started, you, the ESS Community will carry on. We would like to thank everyone who has supported and participated in the association and made it the success that it has been. Our sincere gratitude goes out to all current and past Board members, ESSA Regional Representatives, program participants, our loyal members and the whole ESS community in British Columbia.

This decision was not made lightly or easily. We at ESSA believe that ESS is an integral and necessary part of the province's disaster relief system, and that the program is indebted to ESS volunteers. It is important that the Emergency Management community recognize the scope of responsibility that lies with ESS volunteers and continues to support and advocate for them, particularly in the absence of ESSA.

We have been unable to find a reliable and ongoing source of funding and consider that situation unlikely to change in the future. This means that the closure of ESSA is certain. Therefore, we have reluctantly decided that our due diligence requires us to halt ESSA's operations in an orderly and planned shut-down.

We would like to reiterate our hope that the ESS community will continue with the programs and initiatives started through ESSA in order to provide the needed support for the volunteers who are the heart of ESS in our province.

Thank you.

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Drag our Leaf Icon above to your taskbar to bookmark TGAM in Internet Explorer 9.

Show me how

Please don't show me this again

Remind me later

THE GLOBE AND MAIL 

Ottawa expects same wireless service in rural, urban areas: Paradis

steven chase AND rita trichur

Ottawa, Toronto— Globe and Mail Update

Published Tuesday, Nov. 29, 2011 4:10PM EST

Last updated Tuesday, Nov. 29, 2011 4:14PM EST

Industry Minister Christian Paradis is offering Canada's telecom industry some guffaws but no clarity on how Ottawa plans to loosen foreign investment restrictions in the sector.

He is signalling however, as Ottawa prepares for another spectrum auction of radio frequencies, that Ottawa expects wireless companies to offer rural Canadians the same services as those living in cities. "Our government believes that Canadians should receive the same services wherever they live."

As expected, the French Canadian Minister told telecommunications players in an Ottawa speech Tuesday that he's not yet ready to unveil changes to restrictions limiting what foreigners can buy in the sector. He signalled a decision will not likely come until 2012.

The Globe and Mail reported last week that a key cabinet committee was considering a proposal to allow 100 per cent foreign ownership of telecom firms with a share of 10 per cent or less of the Canadian market. Current law restricts direct and indirect foreign investment to a combined total of 46.7 per cent.

The Conservatives are staying mum though, and Mr. Paradis joked about the intense interest in his thoughts on telecom Tuesday.

"Now I know there has been a lot of interest and speculation about what I may have to say to you today," he told the International Institute of Communications conference.

"Let me be crystal clear, or as we say in French: clair, net et précis," Mr. Paradis said.

"I have consulted with my Cabinet colleagues ... we have deliberated ... and I can tell you that Rick Mercer will not be the next chairman of the CRTC."

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He later acknowledged the flurry of market interest in foreign investment rule changes and spectrum plans.

"Over the last couple of weeks I have noticed a lot of market and media excitement about the spectrum file," Mr. Paradis said.

"Some of you may be looking for an early Christmas present today ... but I am afraid I am going to be a bit of Grinch," he said.

"Given the importance and the serious impact this will have on the lives of Canadians for years to come, this is not a decision that I nor this government will be taking lightly."

The Industry Minister also signalled that he expects cell phone service charges to drop in the years ahead, saying, "We expect that globally competitive prices for consumers will flow from these fundamentals."

He said Ottawa will announce changes when it's ready.

"When we make those decisions, we will announce them – clearly and directly," Mr. Paradis said.

"Again, thank you for inviting me here ... Merry Christmas and happy holidays to you all, and I look forward to seeing more of you."

Later this week, Mr. Paradis heads to New York City to promote Canada, but has cancelled a meeting there with telecom analysts.

The Minister is also busy hammering out plans for the next auction of wireless frequencies. As The Globe also reported last week, the Harper government is looking at proceeding without setting aside licences for smaller players, as happened in 2008.

Instead, the government is contemplating capping the amount of spectrum any one company can purchase at 10 megahertz of bandwidth.

The federal government has previously indicated that it will make a decision about foreign investment before determining the rules for a planned auction of wireless licences in 2012. As a result, Mr. Paradis' decision to delay providing further clarity on foreign ownership is bound to fuel speculation that the auction itself could be delayed.

Mobilicity executive chairman John Bitove said he hopes there will not be a holdup because Canada is already two to three years behind in the deployment of the highly-desired 700-MHz frequency.

"And that's right now," Mr. Bitove said in an interview before Mr. Paradis' speech. "By the time you go through an auction and you build your network and you deploy – you'll be four, five years behind."

New entrants like Mobilicity are eager to buy new spectrum because fancy new handsets, including the iPhone from Apple Inc. and devices running on the Android system from Google Inc., are being made to run in key bands of the 700-MHz frequency.

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Mr. Bitove estimates that only about 40 MHz of that spectrum is “good” – meaning it can support a robust handset lineup, which is key for new entrants to attract new subscribers. Unlike larger incumbents, upstarts lack the clout to influence handset manufacturers to make phones that will run on multiple bands. “Data has become the biggest piece of the business going forward, and we’d like to get on with it,” he said.

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NEWS RELEASE

For immediate release
December 5, 2011

Northern Health Board continues focus on quality, integrated services for northerners

At its December meeting, Northern Health's Board received information on activities from two initiatives and two internal programs leading to improved quality for northerners: Road Health, Research Days, Perinatal Services, and Elder Services.

The Road Health Conference in late October brought together many partners to continue the focus on building an environment of safety around driving and those in driving occupations, and also expanded to include a focus on Men's Health.

In November, UNBC and Northern Health came together for Research Days, an event aimed at strengthening the connections between best practices and research in health, showcasing quality and innovative practice in action, and developing the links between research and front line application.

"Working with our many partners, we have made significant strides in areas such as Road Health," said Dr. Charles Jago, Chair of the Northern Health Board. "The unique partnership between Northern Health and UNBC has already begun to enable research to drive positive changes in the quality of the services we provide."

In addition, the board received presentations that highlighted the work being done on Perinatal Services and Elder Services, two of six programs that Northern Health has made a priority for developing improvements in quality and outcomes.

A report on the work undertaken by foundations and auxiliaries across the region highlighted the positive difference that these organizations make to Northern Health and the residents of the north. This year, activities included the introduction of a new foundation in Kitimat and The Spirit of the North's 20-year celebration in Prince George.

"We have eight foundations and 18 auxiliaries that support our work in our region," said Cathy Ulrich, CEO of Northern Health. "With their passion and commitment we are better enabled to provide the high-quality services that we do in their communities."

Other presentation topics included the Northern Cancer Control Strategy, which is green across the board and continues to meet the goals for both construction of the centre and the work happening throughout the region; the Falls Prevention Strategy, a comprehensive program aimed at a reducing falls through training, education, proper equipment and measurable data; and an update on physician and staff recruitment for Northern Health.

NH continues to forecast towards a balanced budget at year end in 2012.

Media Contact: NH media line: 250-961-7724



PRESIDENT'S CORNER

LGLA BRINGS ELECTED OFFICIAL SEMINAR TO THE NORTH

The Local Government Leadership Academy is presenting a seminar for Elected Officials in Prince George this coming February 28th – March 1st, 2012. The seminar will include sessions on meeting procedures, governance, roles and responsibilities, decision making and priority setting, communications and media, budgeting, financial planning, community planning, affordable housing, local government law, conflict of interest and more

NCLGA has requested that LGLA hold this seminar in the North for several years, so we are very pleased to see this training happening in our region. We encourage NCLGA members to attend! Registration is available at <http://civicinfo.bc.ca/> for newly elected, returning elected, senior staff and First Nations. The seminar will be held at the Coast Inn of the North in Prince George.

ELECTED OFFICIALS SEMINARS

The Local Government Leadership Academy (LGLA), is hosting several sessions that are designed for both the newly elected and returning elected officials.

Senior management staff are also invited to attend.

Elected Officials Seminar for Small Communities

January 11 – 13, 2012

Richmond

(for Small Communities - population < 10,000)



Elected Officials Seminar for Electoral Area Directors

February 8 – 10, 2012

Richmond

(for Electoral Area Directors)

Elected Officials Seminar for Large Communities

February 22 – 24, 2012

Richmond

(for Large Communities - population > 10,000)

Elected Officials Seminar for North Central Local Government Association (NCLGA) Members

February 28 – March 1st, 2012

Prince George

For more information visit: <http://lgl.ca/>

NCLGA OFFICE HOLIDAY HOURS

The office will close on December 19th for the holidays. We will reopen on January 9th, 2012.

Merry Christmas!

The snow has finally settled on the 2011 Local Government Elections. Overall provincial voter turnout was very low, averaging 29.51%. Turnout in the NCLGA region varied from a low of 21.14% in Fort St. John to a high of 78.08% in Stewart. The good news is that ten of our Member Municipalities had more than a 50% voter turnout.



It is great to see that the younger and young at heart candidates are assuming more of the elected leadership positions in our communities. The recent elections brought in an impressive 74 newcomers to local government. In the case of Valemount an entire new Council was elected and in Burns Lake, Luke Strimbold emerged as the youngest Mayor in BC history at 21 years of age.

It is also encouraging to see how the number of women in local government in the NCLGA region is increasing. There are 12 female Mayors leading Municipal Councils now, as well as a number of women elected as Councillors and Electoral Area Directors. Congratulations to all! The face of local government in North Central BC is changing, and the future looks very bright and promising.

It was interesting to see the upswing in the use of social media during the local government elections. This is definitely a sign of things to come. Perhaps online voting will be next?

Kudos to the Province of BC for re-naming the incoming Municipal Auditor General to the more inclusive Auditor General for Local Governments.

We would like to welcome back Brian Frenkel, a Vanderhoof Councillor as an NCLGA Interim Director at Large. Brian previously spent several years on the NCLGA Executive, and we look forward to working with him again.

We extend our heartfelt condolences to colleagues, friends and family of Joanne Roberts, a Chetwynd Councillor, who recently passed away. This really emphasizes the importance of spending time during the coming holiday season with our families and friends.

Take time to share a smile and extend a helping hand to those less fortunate. Best Wishes and a Merry Christmas!

Curt Kuehn
president@nclga.ca

09.04

COUNCILLOR JOANNE ROBERTS DISTRICT OF CHETWYND

We were saddened to learn of the recent passing in November of Councillor Joanne Roberts.

Joanne served the District of Chetwynd first as an employee for six years and then as a Councillor for six years. Her dedication and commitment to the community was immense. Among many other functions, she will be remembered for her efforts to make Chetwynd and area a better and more beautiful place to live through her work on the Community Improvements Committee.



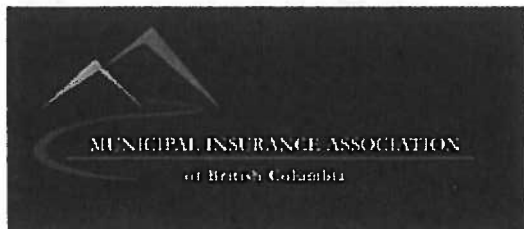
Joanne is survived by her husband Ross, four children and five grandchildren.

MUNICIPAL INSURANCE ASSOCIATION RISK MANAGEMENT INSURANCE GRANT

The Risk Management Insurance Grant program has been extended for 2012 through the MIABC. The amount of the grant available is based on each community's MIA subscriber fee. If your community missed an application last year, the amount that would have been granted can be carried forward and added to this year's application.

Visit: www.MIABC.org and look under the Member's tab for the application form. Or call the MIA office (604) 683-6266.

Some of the programs that have been funded in past years include purchase of helmets, adding new stop signs and repairing roads that have been previously identified as being high risk.



NATIONAL "DO NOT CALL" REGISTRY

If your home or office telephone numbers are listed on the national "Do-Not-Call" telemarketing registry it may be time to renew the listing! The program began in BC just over three years ago, and the list expires every three years. (There is no cost to be listed on the Do-Not-Call registry.)

To re-register or sign up for the first time visit:

<https://www.innate-dncl.gc.ca/insnum-regnum-eng>



NATURAL RESOURCE ROAD ACT PROJECT SUBMISSION DEADLINE: DECEMBER 15

The Province is inviting citizens to comment on a policy project for better regulation of natural resource roads.

A discussion paper has been prepared to inform stakeholders and to encourage feedback on the proposed principles and key policies for consideration. The discussion paper is available online at: www.for.gov.bc.ca/mof/nrra/
Submissions will be accepted until December 15th.

AGRICULTURAL LAND COMMISSION REVIEW

At the request of the Minister of Agriculture in 2010, the Chair of the Agricultural Land Commission conducted a thorough review of ALC operations, policy, regulation and legislation. The Chair's report is available at:

http://www.cattlemen.bc.ca/docs/2011_alc_summary.pdf

The full version of the report is available on the Ministry of Agriculture website:

www.gov.bc.ca/agri/alcireview.html

PACIFIC AGRICULTURE SHOW JANUARY 26-28, 2012 - ABBOTSFORD

This event will showcase the latest innovative equipment and technology for the agriculture industry. www.agricultureshow.net/

CONGRATULATIONS MIKE & ASTRID FRAZIER !

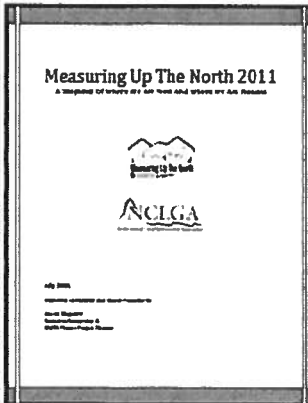
While attending the UBCM Convention in Vancouver, our longest standing NCLGA Board member, McBride Mayor Mike Frazier managed to fit in one more meeting than the other delegates. He & his fiancé Astrid met a Justice of the Peace for a date at the Rose Garden in Stanley Park! Congratulations Mike & Astrid on your wedding ~ September 28th, 2011.





MEASURING UP THE NORTH EFFORTS CONTINUE TO CREATE MORE LIVABLE COMMUNITIES IN THE NORTH

by Laurie Ringaert,
Evaluator & Previous MUTN Project Director



A recent survey shows that Local Governments across the NCLGA region are continuing their efforts to make their communities more livable for all people. The report, *“Measuring Up The North 2011: A Snapshot Of Where We Are Now And Where We Are Headed July 2011”* is an evaluation completed by Laurie Ringaert, former Project Director of the MUTN Initiative for the NCLGA Executive.

Surveys were sent to all NCLGA members who participated in MUTN. The results were amazing and show the importance and sustainability of the Initiative.

What difference has MUTN made? Communities said that their towns/cities/villages/recreation areas are more attractive now to residents and visitors. They are seeing increased participation of older adults and persons with disabilities, benefits to health, a new way of thinking by the staff, elected officials, community members and an overall better way of designing the community.

The 2011 evaluation positively showed us that there is a great deal of **progress still occurring and much more activity planned**. Positive changes include:

- ♦ the adoption of the first Visitable Housing Bylaw in the North by Prince George,
- ♦ the creation of an accessible tourism and recreation strategy in the Cariboo Regional District,
- ♦ the completion of accessible housing units in Terrace and Tumbler Ridge,
- ♦ changes to businesses and the development of accessible business awards in several communities,
- ♦ changes seen in elected officials' and staff ways of thinking and doing.

Plans are underway in several communities to incorporate MUTN principles into Official Community Plans which will bring long term sustainability to this effort.

What are they working on now?

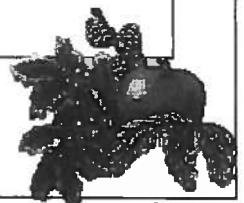
Top priorities areas include:

- ♦ outdoor recreation,
- ♦ public realm (sidewalks, public rights of way),
- ♦ local government properties,
- ♦ tourism cultural businesses: hospitality and retail, marketing and official community plans.

Many no longer use the Measuring Up The North name in their committee titles, instead using such names as “Access”, “Inclusion”, “Senior-Friendly”, etc however they are still continuing with the MUTN principles. Progress continues as newspaper articles report that affordable senior housing units opened in McBride, Tumbler Ridge, 100 Mile House, and Prince George.



*Ribbon cutting and dedication October 13th, 2011
McBride Mountain Manor which consists of ten
modular housing apartments, built specifically for
seniors in need and people with disabilities.
Photo by: Andrea Scholz*



a.a.4

Measuring Up The North Efforts Cont'd

Despite the successes, the evaluation also showed areas of concern. Many of the communities are struggling due to the lack of support for their efforts. The NCLGA members indicate the need for funding, policies and a centralized support mechanism where they can receive technical support, resources, latest trends and updates, networking with other like communities, and general encouragement for their efforts.

They are calling for funding to support their efforts to enhance transportation, housing, tourism and business partners who want to increase their economic viability by becoming more accessible to all. Many of the MUTN committees are no longer active and this is of critical concern as the voices of the people are no longer part of the planning process. Without continued MUTN work, older adults and persons with disabilities will continue to face barriers to participation, isolation, poor health, institutionalization and will be unable to contribute to society. Visitors and conventioners will head elsewhere to more favorable venues.

Most importantly, the evaluation tells us something about the people of the North. These accomplishments and challenges tell us about tireless efforts and perseverance of local government staff, elected officials, community based organizations, businesses, and other agencies. All are working step by step to create better places to live, work and play and ensuring that all people can participate in their communities. Hundreds of people across the North are working as social innovators to make transformational changes.

What can you do now?

- ◆ Share the report with your local government, community committees, local and provincial elected officials.
- ◆ Show off the great work that is happening and discuss how to continue this important effort across the North. Use the report to help support your own funding/grant efforts.
- ◆ Share your on-going stories/accomplishments through the NCLGA Connector. This will keep momentum going.
- ◆ Update your MUTN-Accessibility-Seniors-Age-Friendly Liaisons list with the NCLGA Office.

Many thanks to the NCLGA Executive for their support of this evaluation study. Thanks to all of you for your continuing dedication and commitment to making your communities better for everyone!

The complete report is available at both the NCLGA and the MUTN websites: <http://www.nclga.ca/> and www.measureupthenorth.com.



Bob Fowler and May Sanches, residents of the new 8 unit Pioneer Haven Seniors' Rental Housing in 100 Mile House August, 25, 2011.



Celebrating the progress of construction and funding of the 36 unit Elizabeth Fry Place seniors' Housing in Prince George.

*Kathi Helm, Elizabeth Fry Society,
Prince George Mayor Dan Rogers,
Hon. Shirley Bond, Min. Public Safety & Solicitor Gen.,
Suzanne Jackson, Chair Elizabeth Fry Society,
Hon. James Moore, Min. Canadian Heritage,
MP Bob Zimmer, Prince George - Peace River.*



Provincial Legislation 2011

Auditor General for Local Government Act (Bill 20, 2011) Introduced

Summary and Timing

Minister Ida Chong introduced the *Auditor General for Local Government Act* (Bill 20, 2011) in the Legislative Assembly today.

The Bill is available at:

http://www.leg.bc.ca/39th4th/1st_read/gov20-1.htm

The Bill provides the mandate, powers and duties of the Auditor General for Local Government (AGLG), establishes an audit council, and sets out an administrative and accountability structure for both.

If enacted, the audit mandate for the AGLG would consist of performance audits of the operations (see definitions) of municipalities, regional districts, greater boards (i.e., Greater Vancouver Water District and Greater Vancouver Sewerage and Drainage District), and any organization that, under generally accepted accounting principles, is controlled by a municipality, regional district or greater board. Additional entities may be added to this audit mandate by Cabinet regulation.

The Bill was introduced on the last day of the current Legislative Session, and as a result, is not expected to receive Royal Assent this Session. UBCM's understanding is that the Legislature will adjourn at the end of the day, and any Bills currently in process, including Bill 20, will be considered in the Spring Session, which we expect will begin in February, 2012.

Key Provisions in the Bill

The following is a summary of key provisions in the Bill, and it is not intended to be exhaustive. For certainty with respect to the proposed provisions, please refer to the Bill.

AUDITOR GENERAL, EMPLOYEES AND DELEGATION (SECTIONS 2, 5-7, 11, 12)

- The AGLG is appointed by Cabinet on the Minister's recommendation, after the Minister has considered the recommendations of audit council; only a qualified individual (see definitions) may be appointed; appointment term is 5 years and an AGLG may not be appointed for more than 2 consecutive terms; a similar process to suspend or remove the AGLG in limited circumstances and appoint an acting AGLG is set out; and
- The AGLG may appoint a deputy and other employees, retain other persons, and delegate most powers or duties.

AGLG MANDATE AND PERFORMANCE AUDITS (SECTIONS 3, 4, 13-17, 23, 24)

- The AGLG's mandate and powers are focussed on performance audits and recommendations;
- Performance audits are conducted "to provide local governments with objective information and relevant advice that will assist them in their accountability to their communities for the stewardship of public assets and the achievement of value for money in their operations";
- The AGLG decides what performance audits are to be conducted, but these must be in accordance with the annual service plan;

a.9.5

- Performance audits consist of a review of specific operations of a local government to evaluate such things as the extent to which: operations are undertaken economically, efficiently and effectively; or procedures to monitor economy, efficiency and effectiveness are sufficient;
- Performance audit reports must provide recommendations arising from the review to the local government; the local government is given an opportunity to comment on the proposed audit report, and a summary of the local government's comments must be included in the final audit report, which must be published by the AGLG;
- The AGLG may provide information about recommended practices arising from performance audits that may be applicable or useful to other local governments;
- If permitted by regulation, and if this does not interfere with other audits, the AGLG may undertake a performance audit for a local government upon its request;
- The AGLG may not call into question the merits of policy decisions or objectives of a local government;
- The AGLG may not act as a financial/attest auditor for a local government;
- The AGLG must be provided access to things like records and information needed to conduct a performance audit and may compel persons to answer questions or produce records;
- Confidentiality provisions are included for audit information, proposed reports and proposed comments.

AUDIT COUNCIL (SECTIONS 18-21)

- At least 5 audit council members are appointed by Cabinet for terms of up to 3 years, on the Minister's recommendation, after the Minister has consulted with UBCM, and representatives of business, taxpayers and local government professionals; members must have knowledge, skills, education or experience in one or more

of: accounting, auditing, or local, regional or provincial governance; and

- The role of the audit council is to: make recommendations for the AGLG appointment, suspension or removal and appointment of an acting AGLG; comment on and recommend changes to the annual service plan; comment on AGLG reports, including performance audit and annual reports; disseminate information about performance audit report recommendations and recommended practices; and review and monitor the performance of the AGLG, including having a statement on the AGLG's performance included in the annual report.

ANNUAL SERVICE PLAN, ANNUAL REPORT, ANNUAL AUDIT AND BUDGET PROVISIONS (SECTIONS 8, 9, 10, 22, 25, 26)

- AGLG must submit to Treasury Board an annual estimate of costs; Treasury Board may adjust the estimate before approving it;
- AGLG must annually prepare financial statements, which must be audited by an independent auditor appointed by the Minister;
- AGLG must prepare an annual service plan, including at least: the approved estimate; for each of the current and two future years, its goals and objectives, and measures to determine progress respecting these, general criteria to determine the need for and priority of performance audits, and themes on which performance audits may be based;
- AGLG must prepare, in respect of the previous year, an annual report, including at least: the activities of the AGLG; the audited financial statements; and progress in relation to the goals, objectives and measures established for that year in the annual service plan;
- AGLG may prepare other specified reports; and
- Reports must be distributed to audit council, and in some cases, the Minister, and all must be published.

a. 9.5

Consistency with Policy Paper principles

The UBCM membership considered a Municipal Auditor General Policy Paper at the 2011 Convention, and endorsed the following resolution:

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that UBCM, while disagreeing on the necessity to create an office of the Municipal Auditor General, due to the fact that requirements of such an office are already met under existing local government legislation and regulations, endorse in principle the policy paper and instruct the UBCM Executive to continue negotiations with the provincial government.

The Policy Paper set out a number of principles intended to guide policy development for this initiative. The following identifies how key elements of the Bill relate to these principles.

Consultation between the province and local governments is critical

- UBCM has been consulted on the drafting of the legislation.
- UBCM must be consulted prior to audit council appointments.

Changes should build on existing systems, avoid duplication and meet specific objectives

- The AGLG is specifically precluded from undertaking audits currently required under local government legislation (i.e., financial audits now performed by independent auditors).

System changes should maximize public accountability benefits while respecting local autonomy and recognizing local capacity

- Performance audit provisions treat each local government as a separate government entity, thereby respecting local autonomy.
- The legislation requires the Province to pay the cost of the AGLG, which recognizes the limited financial capacity of some local governments to support these additional costs.

Legislative empowerment of a MAG should not exceed that typical of a federal or provincial AG

- The legislation prohibits the AGLG from calling into question the merits of policy decisions or objective of a local government.
- Performance audit provisions and powers in relation to this do not appear to exceed those provided to the Provincial Auditor General.

Administrative and governance structures should strike a balance between auditor independence and auditor accountability to the governments within its audit mandate

- Auditor independence is provided through provisions such as fixed terms of office and providing AGLG the sole discretion to choose which audits to undertake.
- Auditor accountability is provided through the annual service plan and report requirements, as well as audit council responsibility to monitor the AGLG's performance.
- Composition of the audit council is not consistent with the Policy Paper's recommendation that the AGLG be accountable to the local governments within the audit mandate. The Policy Paper recommended this be achieved through appointment of audit council representatives from the local government system, which is also consistent with existing Canadian precedent for Municipal Auditors' General.
- Instead, the legislation provides for audit council appointments by Cabinet, upon the recommendation of the Minister, after consultation with a range of interests. Appointees must have knowledge or expertise in at least one of a number of specific areas, but there is no requirement that appointees be representatives of the local government system. Consequently, the approach taken in the legislation is both inconsistent with existing precedent, and inconsistent with the Policy Paper's principle that the AGLG be accountable to local governments within its audit mandate.



MEMBER RELEASE

December 8, 2011

TO: Mayor & Council | Chair & Board | Senior Staff
FROM: UBCM Secretariat
RE: **UPDATE: RCMP Contract Negotiations**

1. Purpose

This communication is being forwarded to inform local governments about the status of the negotiations to renew the RCMP Policing Agreements.

On November 30, 2011 Solicitor General Shirley Bond announced that the Deputy Minister's negotiating team was able to reach an Agreement in Principle with the federal government.

On November 30, 2011 all of the Deputy Ministers from the Province/Territorial (PT) block (BC, Yukon, Northwest Territories, Nunavut, Manitoba, Newfoundland and Labrador, Nova Scotia, New Brunswick and Prince Edward Island) indicated to the federal Deputy Minister their formal intent to forward the Agreement to their respective Cabinets for consideration.

UBCM Executive has indicated its support in principle for the renewal of the proposed RCMP Agreement.

Minister Bond also reaffirmed her commitment to work with UBCM to consult with impacted local governments as part of the Provincial government's decision making process and move forward with the implementation of the new RCMP Agreement.

2. Improvements Compared to the Current Agreement

The Province has provided the following information on the new RCMP contract. Detailed information about the new Agreement has not been released at this time as many of the Provinces/Territories have not yet submitted the new contract to their respective cabinets for approval.

A-9-6

www.ubcm.ca

a) Clarity

The federal government accepted Provincial/Territorial (PT) recommendations to provide clarity around the:

- management of the Agreement;
- inclusions and exclusions of cost items/national program budgets;
- intent and/or meaning of language;
- technical operation of the Agreement; and,
- control/oversight cost control mechanisms contained in terms of consistency with other parts of the Agreement.

b) New Relationship – A Partnership

The federal government agreed to re-define the relationship between the parties. PTs have now achieved an agreement that will enhance Local Government and PT oversight and governance with respect to both National RCMP Programs and their local Police Service.

c) Accountability

The PTs achieved many new processes and mechanisms to report, plan, monitor, review, and evaluate the financial and operational aspects of local and national RCMP police services and programs.

d) Cost Containment - Control

All Contract partners will face increased costs with the new Agreements. The current estimate of the first year cost increase to BC Local Governments related solely to contract renewal is less than 1.5% over 2011/12 budgets, this does not include salary increases and other costs that were earlier identified by the RCMP. The PT negotiators focussed on gaining more control over all costs so that we may improve the overall efficiency and effectiveness of contract policing in Canada. There is now a balance between what we pay and our ability to contain and control our costs.

e) Term

The PTs agreed to continue with existing provisions respecting the twenty year term, two year opt out provision and five year review mechanism. It is anticipated that feedback and input from the BC Local Government RCMP Contract Management Committee will feed into the five year review process.

a.a.6

f) Independent Investigation of RCMP Complaints

The BC Independent Investigation Office that has been created to review all serious complaints involving the RCMP will be operational by mid 2012. The Province worked with the federal government to develop draft legislation that would give the force of law to current RCMP policy, whereby incidents involving a serious injury or death and an RCMP Member are investigated by a non-RCMP police force or investigation office created for that purpose by a Province. Once passed, that legislation will also improve the existing mechanisms for civilian oversight of RCMP conduct complaints. The Province continues to press the federal government to reintroduce and pass that legislation.

g) Companion Document

UBCM will be working with the Province to develop a Companion Document to the Municipal Policing Unit Agreements that will serve to inform Local Government about the operation and management of the RCMP Agreements. This will be a living document that can be amended/added to over time as required.

3. Next Steps

UBCM and the Province are planning detailed briefings for January 2012 in Vancouver, Kelowna and Prince George. Further details will follow in the coming weeks regarding those meetings.

The Municipal Police Unit Agreements will be prepared and distributed following those briefings and well in advance of the March 31, 2012 expiry of the current agreements.

UBCM Contact

If your local government has any questions regarding this communication, please contact Ken Vance, Senior Policy Advisor Email: kvance@ubcm.ca; Tel: 604-270-8226 ext. 114.

Please contact Mayor Peter Fassbender, City of Langley, at 604-514-2801 or by email at mayor@langleycity.ca if you have further questions about the negotiations.

a.9.6



THE CORPORATION OF THE VILLAGE OF SLOCAN

P.O. BOX 50, SLOCAN, B.C. V0G 2C0

TELEPHONE (250) 355-2277

FAX (250) 355-2666

admin@villageofslocan.ca

November 16, 2011

FROM THE OFFICE OF THE MAYOR

The Honourable Christy Clark
PO Box 9041 Stn Prov Govt
Victoria BC V8W9E1

Dear Premier Clark:

Re: Canada- European Union Comprehensive Economic & Trade Agreement Negotiations

At the November 14th regular meeting of the Village of Slokan Council we considered the potential impacts on BC municipalities of the Canada-European Union Comprehensive Economic & Trade Agreement (CETA) that is currently being negotiated. Our Council then passed the following resolution (2011/382):

WHEREAS the government of Canada and the European Union have been negotiating a trade agreement known as the Comprehensive Economic and Trade Agreement (CETA); and

WHEREAS the European Union and EU-based corporations are insisting on unobstructed access to procurement by subnational governments --including municipalities, school boards, universities, hospitals and other provincial agencies -- which could significantly reduce or eliminate the right to specify local priorities when public money is invested in goods, services or capital projects; and

WHEREAS Canadian municipalities have expressed growing concerns with trade agreements and their potential impacts on municipal programs and services and local autonomy; and

WHEREAS unobstructed access to Canadian municipal procurement by both EU and Canadian corporations, combined with investment protections in CETA on government concessions related to transit, water, electricity and other social services delivered locally may encourage privatization and reduce economic development options for local communities; and

WHEREAS the provincial and territorial governments have been actively involved in negotiating CETA with the European Union:

Q.9.7

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Council of the Village of Slocan request:

- a briefing from the British Columbia Government on the scope and content of trade negotiations with the European Union, including the details of its procurement, services and investment offers to the EU;
- the Federation of Canadian Municipalities provide a sector-by-sector analysis of the potential impacts on municipal functions and powers of the procurement regime that the European Union is seeking, and which exists already in the WTO Agreement on Government Procurement;
- the Federation of Canadian Municipalities urge the government of Canada not to provide the European Union with access to subnational government procurement;
- Municipal staff review the available information on the impact CETA will have on municipal governments, with special emphasis on procurement and the delivery of social services;
- the Government of British Columbia negotiate a clear, permanent exemption for local governments from CETA; and
- that this resolution be sent to the Union of British Columbia Municipalities for consideration and circulation.

We hope that you will consider these requests, and we eagerly await your reply on these matters.

Yours truly,

Madeleine Perriere
Mayor

cc: -*Village of Slocan Council*
 -*UBCM Member Municipalities*
 -*Alex Atamanenko, MP BC Southern Interior*
 -*Katrine Conroy, MLA West Kootenay Boundary*
 -*Board of Directors, Regional District of Central Kootenay*

a.9.7

Sandra Brown

From: Bill Beamish
Sent: Monday, December 12, 2011 8:29 AM
To: Evan Putterill
Cc: Sandra Brown
Subject: FW: Grey Bay Project Updated Letters of Support
Attachments: Village of Port Clements Letter of Support MIMC 2011-088.pdf; Village of Queen Charlotte Letter of Support MIMC 2011-088.pdf; Masset Letter of Support.pdf; Request for Letter of Support MIMC July 2011.pdf

Thanks Evan, as this is a new application and amount, I will place your request on the Dec. 19th Council agenda for council's consideration.

Bill

From: Evan Putterill [<mailto:sqcrd.area.e.director@live.com>]
Sent: Monday, December 12, 2011 1:10 AM
To: Bill Beamish; Village of Masset; Heather Nelson-Smith
Subject: Grey Bay Project Updated Letters of Support

Hi Bill, Trevor, & Sharon,

The SQCRD c/o the MIMC will be applying for funding from the Community Recreation Program for the completion of the Grey Bay Recreation Site Renovation Project.

The VoPC, VoM, and VoQC have all provided letters of support for this project in the recent past and I was hoping that you could provide updated letters this time around.

I have included copies of your letters sent previously as well as my letter of support request from July of this year for your information. Since that time the campsite re-leveling work and road upgrades have been completed by BC Parks and we received \$21,000.00 from the GTS and \$2,500.00 from the Sandspit Recreation Committee.

As we were denied funding from NDI and the CST and received less from GTS than requested we are applying to the Community Recreation Program for \$97,797.00

If you require support letters for your applications let me know and I will get them to MIMC for review (I have yours Bill).

Thanks for your help,

Evan Putterill

Electoral Area 'E' Director (Moresby Island)
Skeena-Queen Charlotte Regional District
t.250.637.2466 f.250.637.2460 h.250.637.5711
sqcrd.area.e.director@live.com

b.9.1



COPY

July 26th, 2011

Moresby Island Management Committee

Box 33

Sandspit, BC, V0T 1T0

Re: Letter of Support

On behalf of the Council of the Village of Queen Charlotte we are pleased to provide a letter of support to the Moresby Island Management Committee for the Grey Bay recreation site upgrade project. As Gwaii Trust's Culture as it Relates to Tourism total budget is only \$50,000, we suggest an application for funding of up to \$20,000 in order for others to share in this very popular funding budget.

The Grey Bay campsites are in need of several upgrades to ensure it remains one of Moresby Island's recreational attractions. The access road and signage are in need of maintenance and repair; many of the campsites need to be re-levelled and picnic tables and pit toilets need to be replaced.

The recreation site is and an integral part of tourism on Moresby Island and an important area for local families of Haida Gwaii to visit and enjoy.

We wish you well in this application.

Yours truly,

Carol Kulesha

Mayor

b. 9. 1



December 13, 2011

Village of Queen Charlotte
PO Box 580
Queen Charlotte, BC V0T 1S0

Dear Mayor Kulesha,

RE: 2011 NDIT Community Report and request for 2012 Funding.

It is my pleasure to present our report for the 2011 NDIT - Community Economic Development Capacity Building Program for your review and acceptance. The report provides a brief description of our relevant economic development activities and expenditures under this funding.

As you are aware, in 2011 Port Clements chose to allocate only \$15,000 of the possible \$30,000. As well, SQCRD Area D did not contribute the \$2,500 available for collaborative economic development. Therefore, we are reporting out on \$107,500 in pooled NDIT funding allocated to MIEDS under agreement on behalf of the participating communities. Upon acceptance by your Council, the Village can feel free to submit this report directly to NDIT as fulfillment of the funding reporting requirements. Please note that the deadline for this report is January 31st, 2012.

The commitment to collaboration is what allows MIEDS to continue to identify and drive economic development for the islands of Haida Gwaii. The salient focus of MIEDS in 2012 will be the development of a Three year Economic Development Strategy. To be able to implement our 2012 plans, we would like to take this opportunity to ask the Village of Queen Charlotte to once again consider supporting our collaborative efforts on Haida Gwaii by contributing the \$35,000 from the NDIT Economic Development Capacity Building Program for 2012. Should the Council be in agreement, please provide a Resolution to MIEDS and we will apply directly to NDIT for both the main \$30,000 and the \$5,000 available for joint economic development initiatives under this program.

The MIEDS Board wishes to sincerely thank you for your support of our collaborative work on community economic development for Haida Gwaii. We trust that you will find the attached report in good order. Should you have any question, please feel free to contact me. I would be happy to provide a report to your board in person as may be mutually convenient.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "HK" followed by a large, sweeping flourish.

Heather Hornoi
Economic Development Officer

Adobe Reader 8.0+ is required to complete this application form.

If you are using an earlier version, you will not be able to save any information you enter into the form.

Adobe Reader is a free download available at: <http://www.adobe.com/products/acrobat/readstep2.html>



1. Applicant Profile

Community Name (Municipality or Regional District):	
Misty Isles Economic Development Society (on behalf of Masset, SQCRD, Queen Charlotte, Port Clements)	
Address (street, city, postal code):	
113 Oceanview Drive, Box 652, Queen Charlotte, BC V0T 1S0	
Telephone:	Fax:
250-559-8050	
Email:	Website (URL):
edo@mieds.ca	www.mieds.ca

2. Primary Contact Information

Primary Contact (for this application):	Position / Title:
Heather Horno	Economic Development Officer

Complete the following only if different from the above community contact information:

Address (street, city, postal code):	Telephone:
Email:	Fax:

b.9.2

3. Economic Development Priorities

Briefly describe the economic development goals you will be focused on this year:

- To develop a sustainable and diversified economy for all residents of Haida Gwaii
- To promote stronger communities and careful stewardship of the land and water
- To provide leadership for island business attraction, retention and expansion initiatives
- To promote island initiatives that strengthen economic capacity
- To work with the Haida Economic Development agencies on initiatives that benefit all islanders
- To provide a link to regional economic development initiatives.

Outline the activities that will be undertaken to achieve these goals:

- The development of a 3-5 year economic development strategy for the islands
- The offering of the Forest License to Cut volume to get local people back to work
- Promote large scale investment opportunities on Haida Gwaii through the Invest North West BC program
- Working with provincial ministries to identify funding and project opportunities that strengthen community development

Other specific initiatives will be identified and implemented following the completion of the Economic Development Strategy.

4. Economic Development Collaboration

Please outline the collaborative projects that will be undertaken this year. Applicants must identify at least \$5,000 in collaborative projects to be eligible for annual Economic Development Capacity funding. Applicants may collaborate with another municipality, regional district, First Nations band, or with Northern Development.

4.1. Optional Collaboration with Northern Development







Applicants may collaborate with Northern Development on a number of economic development products and services, leveraging funding from the Invest Canada Community Initiatives program provided by the Government of Canada.

Over forty (40) communities have worked collaboratively with Northern Development on the following products, which are produced under Northern Development's Economic Development Internship program. This program which started in 2009 hires college and university graduates and provides training and work placement opportunities leading to careers in economic development or local government within the region. For more information on this program, please visit:

<http://northernddevelopment.bc.ca/news/97/18/New-Northwest-Economic-Developers-Focused-on-Creating-Positive-Regional-Impacts>

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4.1. Optional Collaboration with Northern Development *continued*

Products / Services:	Description:	Quantity:	Funding Requested:
	<p>International Industrial Asset Marketing</p> <p><i>Municipalities and regional districts can work with Northern Development to directly market investment opportunities and attract foreign investors.</i></p> <p><i>Specific industrial assets are identified by communities, and Northern Development collaborates to develop marketing materials.</i></p> <p><i>Funding is utilized for research, graphic design, and PDF production.</i></p> <p><i>Municipalities and regional districts are provided with print and web-ready PDFs.</i></p>	brochures	<p>\$ 0</p> <p>\$500 each</p>
	<p>Foreign Language Translation</p> <p><i>Industrial asset marketing brochures can be translated to target foreign languages including Simplified Chinese, Korean, Japanese, and others as determined by municipalities and regional districts.</i></p> <p><i>Funding is utilized for certified translation services and graphic design production.</i></p> <p><i>Municipalities and regional districts are provided with translated print and web-ready PDFs.</i></p>	languages x brochures	<p>\$ 0</p> <p>\$500 per language</p>
	<p>Investment Ready Community Profile – Development</p> <p><i>Municipalities and regional districts can work with Northern Development to produce detailed community profiles targeted for attracting investment.</i></p> <p><i>Funding is utilized for research and graphic design. Municipalities and regional districts provide OCP, public works, and other local information. Municipalities and regional districts are provided with print and web-ready PDFs.</i></p>	profiles	<p>\$ 0</p> <p>\$2,500 each</p>
	<p>Investment Ready Community Profile – Annual Updates</p> <p><i>Municipalities and regional districts can provide updated information, and request document updates to previously produced community profiles.</i></p> <p><i>Funding is utilized for research and graphic design. Municipalities and regional districts are provided with updated print and web-ready PDFs.</i></p>	updates	<p>\$ 0</p> <p>\$250 each</p>
	<p>Economic Development Internship – Work Placements</p> <p><i>Interns are available to work directly on economic development projects on-site in communities. Work placements are typically one or two weeks in length. Preference is given to municipalities or regional districts looking to fill an existing economic development vacancy, or establishing a new position.</i></p> <p><i>Funding is utilized for intern contract and travel costs. Municipalities and regional districts arrange for accommodation (or cover costs) during work placements.</i></p>	weeks	<p>\$ 0</p> <p>\$750 per week</p>
	<p>Local Business Retention and Expansion Toolkit</p> <p><i>Interns are available to assist municipal or regional district staff in developing business retention and expansion tools as well as engaging with local businesses to collect data.</i></p> <p><i>Funding is utilized for intern contract and travel costs. Municipalities and regional districts provide local business contact information (eg. from business licenses).</i></p>	<input type="checkbox"/> Check to select a toolkit.	<p>\$ 0</p> <p>\$250 per toolkit</p> <p><i>Can be utilized in conjunction with a work placement</i></p>
COLLABORATIVE FUNDING REQUEST SUB-TOTAL:			\$ 0

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ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CAPACITY BUILDING

FUNDING APPLICATION

4.2. Collaboration with Municipalities, Regional Districts, and First Nations Bands

Applicants may collaborate with another municipality, regional district, or First Nations band on economic development projects and initiatives. If collaborating on economic development with another municipality, regional district, or First Nations band, please outline any specific projects or initiatives that will be undertaken this year.

Partner(s):	Concise description of collaborative project or initiative:	Amount (\$):
Village of Masset	Base funding for collaborative economic development administered through MIEDS	\$ 5,000
Village of Queen Charlotte	Base funding for collaborative economic development administered through MIEDS	\$ 5,000
Skeena Queen Charlotte Regional District (Areas D & E)	Base funding for collaborative economic development administered through MIEDS	\$ 5,000
Village of Port Clements	Base funding for collaborative economic development administered through MIEDS	\$ 5,000
COLLABORATIVE FUNDING REQUEST SUB-TOTAL:		\$ 20,000

4.3. Total Collaborative Funding Requested

Based on the information provided in Sections 4.1 and 4.2, the following funding is requested to support collaborative economic development activities this year.

Collaborative Funding Requests:	Amount (\$):
Optional Collaboration with Northern Development	0 \$
Collaboration with Municipalities, Regional Districts, and First Nations Bands	\$ 20,000
COLLABORATIVE FUNDING REQUEST TOTAL: \$ 20,000	
<i>A minimum of \$5,000 in collaborative projects is required.</i>	
REMAINING FUNDING FOR CORE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT: \$ Not Applicable	
<i>A maximum of \$30,000 is available each year, once a minimum of \$5,000 in collaborative projects are identified.</i>	

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ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CAPACITY BUILDING

FUNDING APPLICATION

5. Core Economic Development Budget

Please outline all anticipated expenses in the municipality's or regional district's annual economic development budget. For the purposes of calculating the incremental economic development funding request, please do not include collaborative projects or the collaborative funding request identified in Section 4.

Economic development activity description:	Base budget / contribution for each economic development activity:	Incremental funding for each economic development activity (if applicable):	Total budgeted expense per economic development activity:
Economic Development Officer Salary (if applicable)	\$ 10,000	\$ 65,000	\$ 75,000
Personnel	\$ 5,000	\$ 25,000	\$ 30,000
Travel	\$ 0	\$ 10,000	\$ 10,000
Advertising / Promotion / Website	\$ 0	\$	\$ 0
Professional Development / Board Training	\$ 0	\$ 3,600	\$ 3,600
MIEDS Office / Administration Expenses	\$ 5,000	\$ 16,400	\$ 21,400
	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0
	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0
	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0
	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0
	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0
Not Applicable	\$ 20,000	\$ 120,000	\$ 140,000
ANNUAL CAPACITY BUILDING FUNDING REMAINING	BASE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT BUDGET	REQUESTED INCREMENTAL ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CAPACITY BUILDING FUNDING	CORE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT BUDGET

† This table demonstrates how Northern Development funding is incremental to your core economic development budget. Annual approval is based on incremental spending over core budget amounts. New applicants may be asked to provide three (3) years of economic development budget history.

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6. Attachments

Please list all documents attached to this application:

Document Name:
1) Required: <i>Municipal or regional district economic development budget for the year of this application</i>
2) MIEDS 2012 Budget.
3) MIEDS 2012 Project Plan.
4) Resolution of support (showing amounts requested) for this application from Village of Masset.
5) Resolution of support (showing amounts requested) for this application from Village of Queen Charlotte.
6) Resolution of support (showing amounts requested) for this application from Skeena-Queen Charlotte RD.
7) Resolution of support (showing amounts requested) for this application from Village of Port Clements.

7. Total Funding Request

A maximum annual grant of \$35,000 is available under the Economic Development Capacity Building program per municipality or regional district. Based on the information provided within this application, the breakdown of the funding request is as follows:

	Amount (\$):
Collaborative Funding: <i>Summarized from Section 4 of this form.</i>	\$ 20,000
Incremental Economic Development Funding: <i>Summarized from Section 5 of this form.</i>	\$ 120,000
TOTAL FUNDING REQUEST:	\$ 140,000

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8. Authorization and Agreement to Reporting Requirements

I AFFIRM THAT the information in this application is accurate and complete, and that the project proposal, including plans and budgets, is fairly presented. I agree that once funding is approved, any change to the project proposal will require prior approval of Northern Development Initiative Trust (Northern Development).

I also agree to submit report reporting materials as required by Northern Development, and where required, financial accounting for evaluation of the activity funded by Northern Development. I understand that the information provided in this application may be accessible under the Freedom of Information (FOI) Act.

I agree to publicly acknowledge funding and assistance by Northern Development.

I authorize Northern Development to make any enquiries of such persons, firms, corporations, federal and provincial government agencies/departments and non-profit organizations operating in my organization's field of activities, to collect and share information with them, as Northern Development deems necessary, in order to reach a decision on this application, to administer and monitor the implementation of the project and to evaluate their results after project completion.

I agree that information provided in this application form may be shared with the appropriate Regional Advisory Committee(s), Board of Directors, and consultants.

If approved for Economic Development Capacity Building funding, our organization agrees to:

1. Provide reporting on the impacts of economic development activities for the year of this application.
2. Provide financial reporting including a project / economic development ledger demonstrating costs were incurred with invoice copies for amounts over \$5,000.

Name: Heather Hornoi
Organization Signing Authority

Title: Economic Development Office

Date:

9. Submitting Your Application

Completed Funding Application forms should be provided electronically to Northern Development by email.

Email info@northerndevelopment.bc.ca

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Adobe Reader 8.0+ is required to complete this application form.

If you are using an earlier version, you will not be able to save any information you enter into the form.

Adobe Reader is a free download available at: <http://www.adobe.com/products/acrobat/readstep2.html>



1. Proponent Profile

Community Name (Municipality or Regional District): Misty Isles Economic Development Society	
Address (street, city, postal code): Box 652, Queen Charlotte, BC V0T 1S0	
Telephone: 250-559-8050	Fax: 250-559-8055
Email: edo@mieds.ca	Website (URL): www.mieds.ca

2. Primary Contact Information

Primary Contact (for this application): Heather Hornoi	Position / Title: Economic Development Officer
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Complete the following only if different from the above community contact information:

Address (street, city, postal code):	Telephone:
Email:	Fax:

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3. 2010 Economic Development Ledger

	Budget (\$) As Per Application:	Actual (\$) As Per Attached Ledger:
Economic Development Spending 2010	\$ 122,500.00	\$ 122,500.00

† Please submit a detailed printout from your accounting software of your complete economic development ledger for 2010. The total amount spent on the ledger must match the amount entered as Actual (\$) above.

Briefly describe the additional economic development activities that the Economic Development Capacity Building grant allowed your community to pursue in 2010:

Developed the Haida Gwaii Agriculture Strategy and Implementation Plan
 Developed a Digital Asset Management System
 Co-Hosted the Grant Writing Workshop
 Developed a Trails Strategy
 Joined the Invest Northwest BC initiative
 Continued to coordinate the Tourism Advisory Committee trying to advance collaborative tourism marketing
 Obtained funding to create a social media position allowing skill development of an islander, as well as enhancing tourism communications infrastructure
 Furthered the Forest License to Cut project
 Restructured the organizations Board for enhanced accountability of MIEDS to the participating communities.

Please comment on the positive benefits that Northern Development's Economic Development Capacity Building program has created in your community:

Assisting the communities in coming together to achieve increased coordination, collaboration and implementation of island-wide economic development priorities to respond to business partnerships with the Haida communities for the benefit of all people on the islands.

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4. Collaborative Project

If you were approved for the additional collaborative project funding, please complete the following:

<p>Briefly describe the collaborative project you and your partners pursued:</p> <p>The communities chose to use their collaborative project money as the base budget for collaborative economic development in support of MIEDS.</p>	
<p>Please list the municipalities, regional districts, and/or other organizations you collaborated with:</p>	<p>Contribution (\$):</p>
<p>1) Misty Isles Economic Development Society</p>	<p>\$</p>
<p>2) Queen Charlotte</p>	<p>\$ 5,000.00</p>
<p>3) Masset</p>	<p>\$ 5,000.00</p>
<p>4) Port Clements</p>	<p>\$ 5,000.00</p>
<p>5) SQCRD - Area D</p>	<p>\$ 2,500.00</p>
<p>6)</p>	<p>\$</p>

✦ Please submit proof that your portion of the collaborative project was paid. This could be invoices, cheque stubs, a general ledger printout, etc.

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5. Authorization

I AFFIRM THAT the information in this report is accurate, complete, and fairly presented. I authorize Northern Development to make enquiries in order to verify the results reported, and I agree to provide upon request any additional updates and reporting Northern Development staff deems necessary. I understand that information provided to Northern Development may be accessible under the Freedom of Information (FOI) Act.

Name:

Organization Signing Authority

Title:

Date:

6. Submitting Your Project Reporting

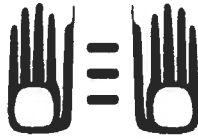
Completed Project Reporting forms with required attachments can be submitted to Northern Development by:

Email: finance@northerndevelopment.bc.ca

Fax: 250-561-2563

Mail: Northern Development Initiative Trust
301 – 1268 Fifth Avenue
Prince George, BC V2L 3L2

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GwaiiTel

The Haida Gwaii Community Network

December 9th, 2011

Bill Craig, CEO
CityWest Cable & Telephone
248 Third Ave. West,
Prince Rupert, BC V8J 1L1

Bill,

As discussed, GwaiiTel would like to collaborate with CityWest in serving Haida Gwaii communities, but we have a major problem and critical disadvantage due to unfair competition from Telus – that includes predatory business practices, defaults on agreements, and limiting GwaiiTel internet access/telecom transport with inadequate capacity/bandwidth.

Although GwaiiTel competes with Telus in the provision of internet services for all of the islands communities, we are totally reliant on their monopoly control of internet access and transport/bandwidth capacity as they have the sole internet access path to Haida Gwaii. The sole Telus-owned radio link between the islands and the mainland (Masset-Prince Rupert) is a key issue for us. While the radio link has limited capacity, Telus persists in managing it unfairly and in violation of our agreements, providing undue preference for their own benefit.

The Telus transport monopoly also puts GwaiiTel at a serious competitive retail disadvantage as they have a much lower cost base and force us to pay higher rates compared to open market prices. For example, we currently pay Telus \$150/Mbps for bandwidth. They recently agreed to reduce our costs to \$100/Mbps, but that would still be much more than rates offered by other carriers in Terrace, Prince George and Vancouver/Lower Mainland. Market rates in the Lower Mainland should be the standard, but those are more like \$5-10/Mbps.

Background

GwaiiTel is registered with the CRTC as a Non-Dominant Carrier. It is incorporated under the BC Societies Act and owned by the 7 communities of Haida Gwaii, for which it provides all public internet services in competition with Telus. GwaiiTel is jointly controlled by the Haida First Nations and civic communities. It operates a local on-island telecom network that serves all the islands communities, in cooperation with small local retail ISPs that include WiFi providers and cable TV societies (now competing with and losing customers to Telus TV).

GwaiiTel was created to address the problem of inadequate telecom services in the islands, and the seemingly impossible struggle of the communities to persuade Telus to provide better services, which began in earnest during the 1990s. By 2001, it was concluded, in light of Telus refusals to address local needs, that the communities of Haida Gwaii needed to build infrastructure for themselves.

In 2004, as GwaiiTel (then part of Gwaii Trust) was preparing to build a new radio link between the islands and the mainland, we were approached by Telus and the Province asking that we support the

Connecting Communities Agreement, a 5-year Telus-BC deal intended to protect the Telus transport monopoly in return for them investing in connecting specified remote communities. Based on Telus agreement to collaborate with GwaiiTel, we gave the design for the radio link to Telus.

In 2006, facilitated by the Province, GwaiiTel entered into 5-year service contracts with Telus that called for collaboration in many areas including joint planning for new service offerings, growth of transport capacity (up to 100 Mbps), annual rate reviews/surveys and price reductions to match open markets in the Lower Mainland. That year Telus built the radio link (using the design/engineering provided by GwaiiTel) with a total initial capacity of 300Mbps, including a provision of 100Mbps for GwaiiTel (200Mbps for Telus).

In 2007, Telus began defaulting on many important provisions of those agreements.

With no consultation or advice, they placed a 30Mbps cap on the GwaiiTel service, the existence of which they denied until GwaiiTel provided definitive evidence from testing with an admission from a Telus staff engineer. They then stated that the other 70Mbps (which had been committed to GwaiiTel) had now been allocated for other purposes in Telus and that no more capacity could be made available for GwaiiTel. This meant GwaiiTel was restricted to 30Mbps while Telus got 270Mbps. The extra capacity was used by Telus to expand cellular data service, a portion of which provided new voice services in communities that were previously unserved, but a portion was also used to expand data services and used to grow Telus business in competition with and at the expense of GwaiiTel.

Through 2008-09, at great expense, with public and political pressure, and facilitation by the Province, GwaiiTel eventually managed to secure some mitigation of grievances, reducing bandwidth costs from \$200/Mbps to \$150/Mbps and increasing our 30Mbps cap to 40 Mbps. While this provided some relief, it left GwaiiTel struggling with insufficient capacity to meet demand at any price – it was apparent that pent up demand far exceeded GwaiiTel capacity, so our services stagnated relative to our retail competitor, Telus, while Telus took more of the local business.

By 2010, the Province was attempting to negotiate a new 10-year deal with Telus, and both Telus and the Province refused to work with us on the basis that they needed to conclude their negotiations first to establish a framework for addressing our ongoing issues. No progress was made in addressing our problems as a result and the Province said matters such as undue preference are the domain of the federal government and the CRTC.

In 2011, the Province and Telus concluded their new 10-year deal, and began to pay some attention to GwaiiTel grievances. GwaiiTel proposed an upgrade to the radio link, but Telus refused to entertain that option, citing a lack of capital. GwaiiTel insisted that a lower cost viable design option existed, explained the option and offered to pay the capital cost of the upgrade.

Telus delayed and stalled for several months, claiming they were studying options, then announced they built the upgrade at their own expense, but had to allocate all of the new capacity to meet their internal needs. All the while, Telus continues to compete unfairly with undue preference causing GwaiiTel significant harm in violation of the Telecommunications Act. They have no incentive to be responsive.

Telus recently agreed to make 20Mbps of additional capacity available to GwaiiTel, but that change (not yet implemented) will only result in GwaiiTel securing 70Mbps, while Telus gets 380 Mbps! GwaiiTel argued against this allocation, in light of earlier agreements and particularly as Telus is using its increased share of the greater capacity to compete with GwaiiTel, but failed. GwaiiTel has recently and repeatedly offered to pay for another radio upgrade, but it seems that Telus simply refuses to consider it.

It appears evident that Telus has little if any motivation or interest to resolve these issues, despite their critical importance to the communities of Haida Gwaii and other parties involved. From our perspective, these issues should be resolved as part of the new 10-year deal between Telus and GovBC, but it has become apparent that the Province has little ability to influence Telus in such matters. At this point, it seems that public and political action is the only option available to us. Hopefully, exposure of Telus violations of the Telecommunications Act will add some weight to this.

We would appreciate any advice or assistance that you might offer in this regard, and look forward to collaboration to serve our communities in future, providing serious and effective competition with Telus for improved services and real consumer choice.

Thanks and best regards,



Paul Daniell
Administrator, GwaiiTel