



**SKEENA-QUEEN CHARLOTTE REGIONAL DISTRICT**

100 - 1st Avenue East Prince Rupert, BC V8J 1A6

Phone: (250)624-2002 Fax: (250)627-8493

August 13, 2010

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

Attn: Mayor Kulesha and Council  
E-mail: Bill Beamish @ [cao@queencharlotte.ca](mailto:cao@queencharlotte.ca)

Dear Mrs. Kulesha:

**Re: DRAFT OCP for Review - Rural Graham Island (SQCRD Electoral Area D)**

*Deadline for comments: Sept 8<sup>th</sup>, 2010*

Over the past several months a dedicated volunteer Community Advisory Committee (CAC) has been working with our consultant (HB Lanarc Consultants Ltd.) to create the first Official Community Plan for Electoral Area D of the SQCRD also known as Rural Graham Island. This large area includes vast areas of wilderness and forested lands, agricultural lands within the ALR, the rural communities of Tow Hill, Tlell, Lawnhill, Miller Creek and ALR lands. The Haida communities of Skidegate and Old Massett are also located within Area D but these lands are not under the jurisdiction of the OCP.

The CAC members include the Area D Director, a representative from the Council of Haida Nation, members of the Graham Island Advisory Planning Commission and local residents with a strong knowledge of local planning issues.

**Public Consultation**

The draft OCP has not yet been made available to the public. However, the public has been involved in the process so far in the following ways:

- 1) Project website – this is currently being moved to another location so not available but will be back up in the Fall
- 2) Kitchen table meetings and two workshops were held to identify key issues that the OCP should address;
- 3) A table was set up at the Tlell Fall Fair to allow people to contribute ideas to a draft vision and set of principles;

- 4) Mapping exercise – participants identified areas of importance and special interest to them;
- 5) Community Character Workshop – a workshop with images allowed participants to identify the key elements that define the rural character of Rural Graham Island and its settlements.

The results of the above-noted events were used by the Community Advisory Committee and the consultant to create a draft vision statement, a set of guiding principles and a background report that were all posted on the project website.

Following the agency review period, a modified draft will be made available to the public in Oct/Nov 2010. A public hearing is anticipated in December 2010.

#### **Request for Comments**

The OCP has been drafted by the consultant with significant input and review from SQCRD staff and the Community Advisory Committee. Prior to making the draft available to the public in the Fall, we are circulating it to relevant government agencies and organizations for comment. Our hope is that having these organizations review and comment in advance will allow us to respond with revisions that can be incorporated into a final draft.

To access the draft OCP please download from the ftp site:

Enter: <ftp://03HBLfolder:YKDdLWxw@hb1anarc.net> into Windows Explorer  
When prompted for a password, enter: YKDdLWxw  
Folder: Graham Island

If you need a printed copy mailed to you please let me know.

If you believe another representative of your organization should review the draft OCP, please forward this information to them and let me know.

We would appreciate if you could provide your comments in writing no later than **September 8<sup>th</sup> 2010**.

Sincerely,



John M. Farrell  
Deputy Administrator

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You are invited to participate in the next Community Advisory Board (CAB) meeting as an **Observer** on the dates and locations listed below.

Please note that only Members (not Observers) can apply for reimbursement of expenses associated with attending CAB meetings.

Based on input at the Round #5 regional CAB meetings, topic areas for Round #6 were identified by each individual CAB membership. Once registered, meeting materials for Round #6 CAB will be sent to in advance of the next CAB meeting.

***Observers are asked to fill out the attached registration form and return it to us by September 1, 2010.***

If you have any questions regarding the meetings or require further information, please contact us at 1-888-434-0533 or [cab@northerngateway.ca](mailto:cab@northerngateway.ca).

If you no longer wish to receive CAB Observer invitations, please email [cab@northerngateway.ca](mailto:cab@northerngateway.ca) and indicate "remove from observer contact list."

**We look forward to your continued participation.**

Registration Deadline:  
**September 1, 2010**

Meeting Dates and Locations:

**Peace Country CAB**  
Grande Prairie, AB.....Sept. 14<sup>th</sup>

**AB North Central CAB**  
Edmonton, AB.....Sept. 15<sup>th</sup>

**BC North West CAB**  
Terrace, BC.....Sept. 21<sup>st</sup>

**BC North Coastal CAB**  
Kitimat, BC.....Sept. 22<sup>nd</sup>

**BC North Central CAB**  
Prince George, BC.....Sept. 24<sup>th</sup>

All meetings are scheduled from  
8:30 am to 3:30 pm  
(breakfast at 8:00 am)

Further information on the Project is available at [www.northerngateway.ca](http://www.northerngateway.ca).

Please fill out and return this form by the REGISTRATION DUE DATE: **September 1, 2010.**

I will attend the following CAB meeting (8:30 am – 3:30 pm; breakfast served at 8:00 am):

- |  |  |   |
|--|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> <b>Peace Country</b><br>Tuesday, Sept. 14 <sup>th</sup><br>Grande Prairie, AB<br>Service Plus Inns & Suites | <input type="checkbox"/> <b>BC North West</b><br>Tuesday, Sept. 21 <sup>st</sup><br>Terrace, BC<br>Best Western Terrace Inn      | <input type="checkbox"/> <b>BC North Central</b><br>Friday, Sept. 24 <sup>th</sup><br>Prince George, BC<br>The Ramada Inn |
| <input type="checkbox"/> <b>AB North Central</b><br>Wednesday, Sept. 15 <sup>th</sup><br>Edmonton, AB<br>Radisson Hotel South        | <input type="checkbox"/> <b>BC North Coastal</b><br>Wednesday, Sept. 22 <sup>nd</sup><br>Kitimat, BC<br>Kitimat Valley Institute |   |

Please provide your contact information (please print clearly):

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Title \_\_\_\_\_

Organization Represented (if applicable) \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number \_\_\_\_\_

Fax Number \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail Address \_\_\_\_\_

Cell Number \_\_\_\_\_

Street \_\_\_\_\_

City, Province, Postal Code \_\_\_\_\_

**Food:**

Breakfast, morning/afternoon coffee & snacks, and lunch will be provided.

- Yes    No   I will be attending the breakfast

Please let us know if you have any special dietary requirements:

\_\_\_\_\_

**Accommodations:**

Accommodations are covered only for CAB members.

**Reimbursement of Expenses:**

Reimbursement of expenses is provided only for CAB members.

**SEND COMPLETED  
REGISTRATION FORMS  
TO:**

**E-mail:**  
cab@northerngateway.ca

**Fax:**  
1-250-632-5783  
Attn: CAB Planning Team

**Mail:**  
CAB Planning Team  
240 City Centre  
Kitimat, BC V8C 1T6

**Phone:**  
1-888-434-0533

**Registration due September 1, 2010**

If you no longer wish to receive CAB Observer invitations, please email [cab@northerngateway.ca](mailto:cab@northerngateway.ca) and indicate "remove from observer contact list."