

**Minutes of Community Information Forum Meeting**  
**Breakers Pub Loft**  
**Wednesday, March 26, 2014**  
**5:00 p.m. – 6:30 p.m.**

**Members present**

Michal Sluka  
Mike Slubowski  
James McNish (joined at 5:10pm)  
Ken Shaw  
Don Scott  
Bill Mounce  
Peter Freeman  
Ken Lippett  
Bob Blain  
Luanne Roth  
Sheila Gordon-Payne  
Reid Weibelzahl  
Frank DeBartolo

**PRPA staff Present**

Ken Veldman  
Maynard Angus  
Char Hamilton

**Regrets**

Amber Sheasgreen  
Ryan Leighton  
Glen Edwards  
Ron Bedard

**1. Call to Order**

Ken Veldman called the meeting to order at 5:00 pm.

**2. Last Meeting**

**a. Minutes**

February 17, 2014 minutes were distributed and accepted as presented.

**b. Business arising from the minutes**

A followup question was asked whether liquid bulk terminals at Ridley Island are an identified use within PRPA's Land Use Plan. (It was confirmed that they are.)

A followup question was asked about the “Northwest Readiness Project” referenced by Mr. Stevenson. (PRPA is contributing to a provincial government initiative that will produce scenario-based labour force, population and demand projections. The resource is expected to be completed by the end of April.)

## 2. Roundtable

- a. **Proposed Canpotex project** – A status update was requested. Company has applied for a dredging permit, which is the final permit required that could move the project forward.
- b. **Suggested topics for the next meeting** – Waterfront Access, Marine Safety, Westview Terminal issues, and Environmental Assessment Processes. It was suggested that project dredging and sediment issues be added to the list, and a topic would be confirmed later in the agenda.

## 3. Prince Rupert Waterfront Use and Access

Ken Veldman presented a map outlining PRPA land holdings (and other ownership) around the Prince Rupert harbour. In addition, PRPA’s formal land use plan and “Cow Bay Master Plan” were presented for background.

The forum held a wide-ranging discussion that emphasized the following points:

- Access to waterfront, and especially to “beach” for recreational purposes is a significant issue in the community.
- Other recreational assets such as nature trails and boat infrastructure were discussed, but it was agreed that public waterfront space held priority.
- Industrial development is seen as downgrading mediocre access to poor access, and is associated primarily with loss of access to Ridley Island and the central waterfront beside the CN railyard. (Safety concerns are understood as the reason, but the perception of loss of access remains.)
- While some desire is shown for “sharing access” and integrating public into industrial areas, others see value in focusing on non-industrial areas to provide access.
- Frustration is focused on the Port Authority and CN—perceived as being the primary land holders that hold their own interests above the community. (It is recognized by

- the group that there are many other property owners on the waterfront, but public perception is noted.)
- There was a general agreement that the Cow Bay Master Plan would be a significant community asset, but there were questions about certainty and timing of investment.
  - Waterfront development should prioritize the following qualities:
    - o Access to beach/water, not just “view”
    - o Walking distance for majority of population/close to downtown
    - o Wheelchair accessibility
  - The group agreed by consensus that the priority development area for community waterfront access should be focused on the Kwinitza area.

#### **4. New Business**

##### **a. Member resignations and replacements**

It was noted that Robert Long (City of Prince Rupert) and Nancy Griffith-Zahner have tendered their resignation from the forum. Frank Debartolo has replace Helen Johnson (Lax Kwalaams). A decision on replacements was not made.

#### **5. Next Meeting**

##### **a. Agenda Items:**

Port Sediment Management Strategy was selected as next meeting’s topic.

##### **b. Next meeting date: Wednesday, April 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2014**

Meeting adjourned at 6:30 pm