

Minutes of Community Information Forum (CIF) Meeting
Microsoft TEAMS Virtual Meeting
Wednesday, January 13th, 2021
5:00 p.m. - 6:30 p.m.

Members Present

Brian Musgrave
Dan Hendrickson
Harry Young
Ken Shaw
Dan Harris

Members Absent

Mike Slubowski
Ken Lippett
Bill Mounce
Christine Danroth
Jesse Palmer
Sebastien Paquet
Richard Haley
Henry Clifton
Mark Rudderham
Richard Mellis
Robert Blain
Peter Freeman
Luanne Roth

PRPA Staff Present

Ken Veldman
Brittany Pederson

1. Call to Order

Ken Veldman called the meeting to order at 5:04 PM. CIF meeting through Microsoft Teams.

2. Last Meeting Minutes

The meeting minutes from the November 18th meeting were circulated and accepted.

3. Business Arising from Last Meeting's Minutes

Q: Any updates from Vopak regarding delays, advancements etc.?

A: Everything is on course at this time. The environmental assessment processes are ongoing, but should reasonably be completed by June. (Followup Note: The Vopak Pacific project's environmental assessment under the BC Environmental Act is required to include a 45-day public review period of recommendations, followed by a 45-day determination phase for Ministerial review and comment, which would likely push completion to this Fall.)

4. Port Update

A) 2020 Volume Reports

PRPA saw another record year for 2020. The Total cargo volumes through the port last year was approximately 32.5 million tonnes. This equates to about a 9% increase in volume by tonnage. The bulk terminals saw increased growth ie: PRG was up 3%, RTI up by 26% (including RIPET), Westview up 33%, Fairview declined slightly from 2019. These numbers represent stability through a challenging time in the Northwest due to COVID-19.

B) PRPA Green Marine Certification

PRPA participates in Green Marine, which is a voluntary environmental audit program providing performance reports for participating organizations. This year, PRPA scored one of the highest ratings in North America for ports. We're very proud of this achievement and continue to expand upon PRPA's environmental stewardship programs.

C) Navigational Risk Assessment Study Summary

PRPA conducted a Navigational Risk Assessment with DNV and a summary of these results has been published on PRPA's website. PRPA periodically conducts these assessments to quantify navigational risk based on current and forecasted volumes. The study highlighted the risk of collisions and groundings, included an anchorage review and provided recommendations. Prevention of incidents is the primary focus of this assessment. This isn't meant to replace navigational risk assessment for projects, but rather provide a wholistic view of the port and how it informs PRPA's practices and procedures moving forward.

The process included local indigenous engagement, collecting key databases of both traffic and environmental data, convening hazard identification workshops with local marine partners, and modelling to determine the probabilities and locations of potential types of marine accidents using current and future forecast traffic scenarios. An anchorage review was also conducted to assess anchorage locations, policies, and procedures.

The report summary was shared and discussed, and details can be found on PRPA's website. Generally, the risk assessment showed that forecast growth in vessel traffic, including LPG, chemical and fuel tankers, were not expected to have a significant impact on probabilities of current incident levels. At 2030 forecast traffic levels, the study found that large cargo vessels could expect to be involved in a collision incident once every 140 years, and could expect to be involved in a grounding incident once every 32 years. With regards to anchorages, the report also developed several recommendations for PRPA to consider regarding anchorage areas and anchorage practices and procedures.

The findings have contributed to the creation of PRPA's 2020-21 Safe Port Action Plan, which implements or advances many of the recommendations in the report. The initiatives were discussed, and are available on PRPA's website (Marine Operations and Safety Page).

Q: One of the actions recommended were wind sensors placed in strategic locations—where are those?

A: PRPA has two wind/wave/temperature sensors currently broadcasting live data, one in the inner harbour and one in the outer harbour off Ridley Island/Agnew Bank. (Note: Since this meeting, PRPA has added an additional sensor at Triple Island.) The data from these sensors can be found on PRPA's website under Live Harbour Data.

D) Port Information Guide Public Comment Period

PRPA's Port Information Guide is being updated and has recently undergone a 30 day public comment period ending on January 8th 2021.

E) Community Investment Fund 'Project of the Decade' & Call for Proposals

We've opened up PRPA's application period to the Community Investment Fund for this year. The application period runs from January 11–February 12, 2021. Along with PRPA's CIF 10 year celebration we ran a project of the decade contest that includes a \$10,000 prize for one of PRPA's past projects. A public vote determined My Mountain Co-op: Shames Mountain was the winner.

F) Prince Rupert Labour Recruitment Program

This initiative was brought forward by Prince Rupert Community Futures and ReDesign Rupert in 2019/2020. This project focuses heavily on marketing tools to amplify local employer recruitment efforts. A website has been developed that positions Prince Rupert and Port Edward as great places to live, provides relevant information to potential new employees that may be considering a move, and aggregates current career postings. A marketing campaign (largely social media based) will create broader awareness of opportunities, targeting Northern BC & Alberta with digital ads. PRPA will be hosting a workshop through the Prince Rupert Chamber of Commerce next week for local employers outlining what they can do to get engaged.

There are 3 asks for employers: 'register' with the program and enable postings to be highlighted on the website, use the website as a resource in your own recruitment programs, and provide feedback as to whether the program is effectively impacting recruitment efforts to enable incremental improvements.

The focus of the first few months will be analyzing the effectiveness of the digital advertising campaign and making revisions to the marketing plan.

Q: Is the website where we can direct potential workers for more information?

A: The website will provide information on Prince Rupert, contacts, community organizations, etc. and will be a useful tool for employers and potential employees as well.

Q: Is there an opportunity to partner with the college in some way?

A: This program will collect a lot of data that could help inform labour force for the future, training opportunities, etc. A partnership with the college, as they look to develop new training courses and programs is a potential.

Input: The ultimate goal from an employer's perspective would be to have a one stop location for recruits from out of town to access all relevant information ie: housing, childcare, schooling, etc.

Q: Housing is an issue in Prince Rupert, whether renting or buying. Once that is addressed, we might be able to attract more workers to the community.

A: That issue is recognized as a key impact on the ability to recruit. However, it was also recognized labour supply & recruitment, including for essential services like medical and educational staff, is an issue right now, and it was important to continue regardless.

Q: If the port has information regarding what clearing/levelling ground looks like in Prince Rupert from a logistical and financial perspective, that might be useful for developers to have

A: The City has been engaged with promoting opportunities to residential development companies and gotten some interest in the Prince Rupert area in the hopes of attracting new developers. PRPA is willing to support those efforts in any way we can.

G) PRPA Christmas Donations

We were able to make a number of donations over the Christmas holidays to five different community organizations—the Breakfast Club of Canada through SD52, Friendship House Association of Prince Rupert, United Way of Northern BC, Salvation Army and North Coast Transition Society.

H) Prince Rupert KidSport Chapter

We are looking at partnering with the local KidSport chapter, which provides funding support for youth who would like to participate in sport but are facing financial barriers. PRPA's goal is to set up an independent local chapter in partnership with the City, who is currently operating the program through KidSport. We are looking for volunteers to join the board of directors, and other organizations to participate from a funding perspective as well.

5. New Business – Round Table

Q: Can you provide an update on the Seal Cove Project?

A: We have a finalized design for the Seal Cove area, approved by DFO, and we are discussing the procurement process. We are hoping to begin the construction phase in the next couple of months, with an approximate 3-month project timeline projected once construction begins. (Note: this project started construction in February 2021.)

Q: Pinnacle's procedures after loading of a ship is sometimes causing a large cloud of dust to emerge. Is there a better way of dealing with that?

ACTION ITEM: We haven't seen a significant change in PRPA's dustfall numbers collected in the area, but PRPA will follow up on that item and report back to the group.

Q: Any update on the DPW expansion?

A: They're currently in their procurement phase, and we expect construction to begin in Q1 2021.

Next Meeting

Next meeting date – virtual meeting for March 17th, 2021

-Presentation from CN Public Affairs Manager, Tyler Banick

Meeting adjourned 6:24 PM by KV.