

**Minutes of Community Information Forum (CIF) Meeting**  
**Microsoft TEAMS Virtual Meeting**  
**Thursday June 25<sup>th</sup> 2020**  
**5:00 p.m. – 6:30 p.m.**

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**Members Present**

Luanne Roth  
Ken Shaw  
Ken Lippett  
Dan Hendrickson  
Dan Harris  
Brian Musgrave

**PRPA Staff Present**

Ken Veldman  
Natalie Allen

**Regrets**

Bill Mounce  
Harry Young  
Richard Mellis  
Richard Haley

**1. Call to Order**

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

**2. Last Meeting Minutes**

February 5<sup>th</sup> meeting minutes were circulated and accepted.

**3. Business Arising from Last Meeting's Minutes**

**Seal Cove Slough Project**

The Seal Cove project is one of the marine habitat compensation projects associated with Fairview Connector Corridor. PRPA has reached agreement with the City of Prince Rupert for a long-term lease on the property in order to add recreational values to the environmental compensation project and create a community asset for residents. The design process is about 60% complete. The project will include seating, landscaping, lighting and a walkable recreational area. Procurement work is scheduled to start once

design is completed, and construction may potentially start this fall and be complete by next spring. The total project cost is estimated to be \$3-4 million.

### **Logs & Debris in the Harbour**

PRPA Marine Operations, boat crew are responsible for the removal of debris and logs in the harbour. If they are unable to remove debris or logs they contract out the removal through Rupert Log sort

### **Loading Vessels at POPR**

Detailed loading information and guidelines can be found in PRPA's Port Information Guide.

### **Navigational Risk Assessment**

The Navigational Risk Assessment is still in a draft review process and not available until the completion of the assessment. COVID has slowed the process, but a summary will be available for the public once completed.

### **COVID-19 Operations at PRPA, Community Support Programs**

All terminals at the Port of Prince Rupert have been able to maintain operations. Overall volumes have continued to be strong through the spring, with the exception of containers. The terminal operators and PRPA have collaborated to incorporate rigorous operational practices and procedures in order maintain the health and well-being of the workforce.

Containers- April and May have been weak in terms of volumes, but it is looking like the numbers are strong for June/July.

Bulk cargo- volumes have been very strong to date, and at the end of May bulk cargo was up 9%. This increase was mainly driven by volumes at RTI and Westview.

The Connector Corridor construction project has continued construction with the appropriate adaptations in place. Approximately 40% of the road is complete and looking to complete the project second quarter of 2021.

Fairview Expansion Phase 2B is scheduled to start fourth quarter of 2020. DPW has one outstanding authorization required from the Department of Fisheries and Oceans.

Ridley Island Export Logistics Platform project has started its environmental assessment process. The Public comment period on the project description was open for a month in April. The reported engagement numbers through the adapted virtual

platform are better than our traditional type of open house attendance. The Environmental Effects Evaluation document is about a month away and a second round of public comment will be carried out in late summer.

### **Zanardi Bridge Project**

CN has continued to advance its design and engineering on this project which will triple the rail capacity at the entrance of the Port, and CN is hopeful to begin construction in early 2021.

### **Vopak**

Vopak is continuing its project design and engineering of its proposed liquid bulk terminal on Ridley Island. The project's next step is submitting an Environmental Effects Document to both federal and provincial regulatory agencies participating in its environmental assessment, which is expected to occur in September.

### **Community**

PRPA made a donation of \$10,000 to the United Way's Northern BC Region. The fund was setup to extend support small not-for-profits and service providers assist during COVID. The Breakfast Club of Canada volunteer program extended its service through the Bags of Goodness program, delivering food to students who were enrolled in the Breakfast club program at various SD52 schools. PRPA is also providing a taxi support program to the Prince Rupert Seniors Centre to assist with trips to the grocery, doctor appointments, etc, due to the compromised ability to recruit volunteer rides. PRPA's boat crew delivered over 15,000 pounds of food to Kitkatla while the community was in lock down.

### **Round Table- COVID-19**

Dan Harris provided feedback on business during COVID, Business is going well and planning opening Harris & Wick in July.

Luanne Roth asked about how the fishing and tourism businesses were doing in Prince Rupert? Veldman provided an update on the local cruise season/industry from PRPA's perspective, and the challenges the sector is facing in the global market, especially over the next two or three years. PRPA closed the Port Interpretive Centre/Prince Rupert Visitor Centre in March and will be opening in June. It will be interesting to see what the demographics of tourism will look like, when the PIC/VIC opens up.

Ken Shaw updated the committee on international students at the Coast Mountain College. Usually 50 to 70 international students come to Prince Rupert to live, work and

study, the college is still working out how to operate in this new reality, but overall enrollment numbers are close to normal.

Dan Hendrickson updated the committee on current recruiting and training at BCMEA. He reported going into a busy period at Fairview Container Terminal. In January they were recruiting approximately 120 people, but had to stop due to COVID-19. 24 new hirers completed training and 18 more will finish next week. 65 are ready to start training as soon as training opportunities become available. Dan explained that the machines are a little more complex to train in as physical distancing is difficult.

#### **PRPA Land Use Plan 2020 Update (LUP)**

PRPA has been pleased with public engagement into the update of PRPA's Land Use Plan. PRPA is required by the Canada Marine Act to have a Land Use Plan in place, and the document is inherently valuable to PRPA to ensure its development planning, infrastructure planning, environmental planning remain coordinated internally, as well as coordinated with external land planning and values (e.g. community Official Community Plans).

As important as the plan itself, the engagement process has also been valuable to ensure there is a shared knowledge of the Port's strategic approach to its land holdings, and that is manifested in specific land uses. The updated plan includes new land designations that better define uses such as environmental uses, viewscape buffer and recreational uses.

A 60-day public comment period will be open until August, which includes a "virtual open house" located on PRPA's website,

#### **4. New Business Round table**

Dan Harris asked for additional information on a reported fire last year at Pinnacle Renewable Energy's Westview Terminal. He asked if PRPA is keep apprised on safety processes and changes to infrastructure/equipment/operations. He asked for follow up information on what changes were made in one of the terminal's silos recently and if a study was conducted to determine best practices?

A report that some trucks transiting near the CN downtown yard are kicking up dust. Veldman committed to following up on when the road treatment will be completed for this year.

Labour Recruitment and Retention Website update. This project has not progressed during the pandemic. PRPA is committed to ensuring it takes a leadership role in advancing community labour force recruitment efforts.

## 5. Next Meeting

Next meeting date – TBD, MS Teams virtual meeting planned for mid-September.

Meeting adjourned 6:32 pm by KV