

## Update on the 2006 Port Alice Economic Transition Plan

Action	2015 Update
<b>1. The Industrial Park</b>	The Industrial Park had a smaller economic impact on the local economy than was hoped for. Land was purchased speculatively but never put to use, resulting in no positive economic impacts. Council is currently assessing the utility of expanding the Industrial Park.
<b>2. The Marina</b>	The Marina was completed, but not as it was originally envisioned. The original plan for the Marina intended to pair its construction with development of the surrounding land. Unfortunately, a landslide in the area made the land both unattractive to potential purchasers and in fact, too dangerous to use. On top of this, Port Alice did not receive funding as expected, because granting agencies did not support the business case for a marina of the size proposed. Finally, in 2013, the Marina was constructed in a different location. It has limited services (no power or showers) but on the plus side it is revenue positive – a success that can be built upon. Every boater in town and many transient boaters use our launch and parking facilities. Current launch fees are 10\$ per launch or \$60 for the year. These rates are considered low compared to other marinas, but keep the Marina accessible for locals.
<b>3. Dolomite Quarry</b>	There is no dolomite mining proposal under consideration in this area. It's not clear why this was included in the plan in the first place.
<b>4. Fin Fish Aquaculture</b>	Aquaculture is not within the purview of local government so Council is not able to directly influence this issue. Private parties have also considered Aquaculture as a business opportunity but also consider it to unprofitable because of Port Alice's distance from the market. There is also little opportunity for Port Alice to act as base for providing Aquaculture supplies, services, or infrastructure as there is a more direct marine link to markets and services via Coal Harbour.
<b>5. Shellfish Aquaculture</b>	Similar to Fin Fish Aquaculture prospects, Port Alice is too far from shellfish markets to pursue the industry profitably. And again, the Village Council does not see it as within their role to pursue such an initiative.
<b>6. Small Business and Services (Specifically, internet)</b>	The Village and is still working hard to procure better internet services in Port Alice. In addition, Council has supported federal and provincial funding applications for a microwave broadband upgrade which would bring high speed service to the community.
<b>7. The Region and Tourism</b>	Since the creation of the 2006 Transition Plan, the Village has established a hotel tax. Thus far, only one hotel qualifies for the tax, and what little money earned from the tax is pooled with the regional district for regional tourism marketing purposes. We also participate in regional tourism initiatives whenever possible, including the Vancouver Island North Tourism Advisory Committee.
<b>8. The Mill and Mill Site</b>	The Mill is evaluating other options for the use of its facility and equipment such as energy production, shipping, pellet production, etc. The Village will support them however possible.
<b>9. Community Forest</b>	In partnership with Port Hardy and Port McNeill, Port Alice has developed a community forest with an Annual Allowable Cut (AAC) of 10,400 cubic metres. There may be opportunities for more local development from the Community Forest in the future (i.e. more potential for providing fibre to local businesses, and supporting more local employment).