

# PORT ALICE

## ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT STRATEGY

### PROJECT UPDATE

September 2015

**What Is Happening?** OBVIOUSLY, THE VILLAGE OF PORT ALICE IS GOING THROUGH BIG ECONOMIC CHANGES, AND THERE IS AN UNCERTAIN ECONOMIC FUTURE. *WE CANNOT SIT BACK AND WAIT TO SEE WHAT HAPPENS.*

### Community Workshop

**WHAT: WORKSHOP TO DISCUSS OUR LOCAL ECONOMY. WE'LL BE BUILDING ON THE FEEDBACK WE'VE ALREADY GATHERED AND WE'LL START TO PRIORITIZE ACTIONS.**

**WHEN: SEPTEMBER 29TH, 4-7 PM**

**WHERE: COMMUNITY CENTRE**

**WHY: BE A PART OF SHAPING YOUR COMMUNITY'S FUTURE. HELP CHOOSE A PATH FORWARD.**

The Village of Port Alice is creating a **community generated** economic development plan to proactively decide how we will move forward.

We know we need to diversify, we know there are opportunities on the North Island, and we know that we have some real challenges ahead of us. This project will seek to determine the best path forward for Port Alice, drawing on community knowledge, best practices from elsewhere, and expert input.

### Who Is Working On It?

- ▶ All residents of Port Alice and others who care about the Village are encouraged to get involved.
- ▶ We are reaching out to potential partners like the Quatsino First Nation, provincial government, the Regional District, and other North Island groups.
- ▶ We are also getting some help from a company called EcoPlan – they have worked on a number of similar projects on the North Island and around BC.

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## Timeline



## Why Now?

- ▶ The mill shutdown may last until late 2016 or longer
- ▶ Recent estimates show that our population has dropped to 500 people, down from 800 people in 2011
- ▶ The small population puts some of our core services at risk
- ▶ The entire North Island is grappling with some of the same issues as Port Alice, and many groups are also currently working on Economic Development

We need to be proactive and take action, together in order to address these points.

## Questions? Comments?

Contact Madeline McDonald at the Village of Port Alice (mmcdonald@portalice.ca, 250 284-3391) or Colleen Hamilton of EcoPlan (colleen@ecoplan.ca, toll free 1.877 374-4685 ex 6).

**Tell us your ideas— Win \$50**

**WE’VE ALREADY INTERVIEWED A NUMBER OF PEOPLE TO HEAR THEIR INITIAL THOUGHTS ON THE OPPORTUNITIES AND BARRIERS TO PORT ALICE’S ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT.**

**IF YOU HAVEN’T ALREADY BEEN INTERVIEWED, PLEASE TAKE 10 MINUTES TO FILL OUT THIS SHORT SURVEY. YOU’LL BE ENTERED TO WIN AT \$50 GIFT CERTIFICATE TO FP FOODS (DON’T WORRY, THOSE WHO HAVE ALREADY BEEN INTERVIEWED WILL BE ENTERED TO WIN TOO).**

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