VILLAGE OF PORT ALICE COUNCIL MEETING AGENDA



TO BE HELD WEDNESDAY SEPTEMBER 11, 2019 at 7:00 pm IN THE PORT ALICE COUNCIL CHAMBERS

(1) CALL TO ORDER

We are privileged to acknowledge that this meeting is being held on the traditional territory of the Quatsino First Nations.

(2) RESOLUTION TO PROCEED TO CLOSED MEETING (6:30 pm)

THAT the meeting be closed to the public to consider matters pursuant to the following sections of the Community Charter:

Section 90 (k) negotiations and related discussions respecting the proposed provision of a municipal service that are at their preliminary stages and that, in the view of the council, could reasonably be expected to harm the interests of the municipality if they were held in public;

(3) ADOPTION OF AGENDA:

THAT the Agenda for the Meeting of the Village of Port Alice for September 11, 2019, be approved; AND THAT all delegations, reports, correspondence and other information set to the agenda be received for information.

(4) DELEGATIONS:

a.) RCMP- Quarterly Report

(5) MINUTES:

Pg 3-5

Pg 9

Pg 11

a.) THAT the Minutes from the Regular Meeting of August 14, 2019 be approved.

(6) OLD BUSINESS: N\A

(7) COMMUNICATIONS:

Pg 7

a.) Ian Ford Bursary – Thank you Letter
August 20, 2019, Letter from North Island Secondary Acting Principal Ms. S Johnson

(8) NEW BUSINESS:

a) RDMW and MWRHD Alternate Director
September 6, 2019, Report from Bonnie Danyk

(9) REPORTS:

a.) Fire Chiefs Report for July 2019
 Report from Gerry Rose, Fire Chief

(10) BYLAWS: N\A

(11) QUESTION PERIOD:

(12) ADJOURNMENT:

THAT the meeting of the Village of Port Alice Council held September 11, 2019, be adjourned.

INFORMATION ITEMS:

1. May 2019, Notice from BC Hydro, re Telecommunication (wifi & Microcell) equipment installed on municipal streets

VILLAGE OF PORT ALICE COUNCIL MEETING AGENDA



TO BE HELD WEDNESDAY SEPTEMBER 11, 2019 at 7:00 pm IN THE PORT ALICE COUNCIL CHAMBERS

- 2. August 7, 2019, Letter from UBCM, re UBCM Group Benefits Plan Notice of Plan Marketing Review
- 3. August 13, 2019, Email from Bruce Gibbons, Merville Water Guardians, re UBCM Strathcona RD Groundwater Resolution
- 4. August 15, 2019, Letter from T Faganello & G McIsaac re Congratulations on achieving Carbon Neutrality for 2018
- 5. August 19, 2019, Letter from District of Chetwynd re Provincial Support for Libraries
- 6. August 21, 2019, Email from Jessie Christopherson from Recycling Council of BC regarding Proclamation Request Waste Reduction
- 7. August 22, 2019, Letter from Canadian Union of Postal Workers, re federal elections
- 8. August 22, 2019, Letter to Hon Rob Fleming from Mayor Linda Buchanon, City of Vancouver re increased support for public libraries

VILLAGE OF PORT ALICE COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

Port Alice
Gateway to the Wild West Coast

WEDNESDAY AUGUST 14 2019
IN THE PORT ALICE COUNCIL CHAMBERS

Present

Councillor Bruce Lloyd Councillor Angela Yunker Councillor Holly Aldis

Absent

Mayor Kevin Cameron

Staff

Bonnie Danyk, CAO / CFO

CALL TO ORDER: 7:00 pm

Acting Mayor Bruce Lloyd called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm

ADOPTION OF AGENDA:

94/19 Adoption of

Agenda

MOVED by Councillor Yunker / Seconded by Councillor Lloyd

THAT the Agenda for the Meeting of the Village of Port Alice for August 14, 2019, be approved: **AND THAT** all delegations, reports, correspondence and other information set to the agenda be received for information.

CARRIED

DELEGATIONS:

Campbell River ATV Club Presentation

Presentation by Club president, Mike Coulter

MINUTES:

95/19 Minutes July 10 2019

MOVED by Councillor Lloyd / Seconded by Councillor Yunker

THAT the minutes for the Regular Meeting held on July 11 2019 be adopted.

CARRIED

COMMUNICATIONS:

a.) Notification of Application for a Solid Waste Landfill at Neroutsos Inlet

July 15, 2019 Letter from David Steele, Western Forest Products

b) MIABC Voting Delegates

July 22, 2019 Email from Claudia Chan MIABC

96/19 MIABC Voting Delegate MOVED by Councillor Aldis / Seconded by Councillor Yunker

THAT Kevin Cameron be appointed as the MIABC Voting Delegate.

CARRIED

c) 2019 UBCM Official Opposition Meeting Opportunities

July 19, 2019 Letter from Todd Stone, Official Opposition Critic for Municipal Affairs

MOVED by Councillor Aldis / Seconded by Councillor Yunker

97/19 UBCM Official Opposition

3

THAT staff set up a meeting with the Official Opposition at UBCM CARRIED

NEW BUSINESS: N/A

REPORTS:

a.) Paperless Meeting Agendas

July 30, 2019 Report from Bonnie Danyk CAO / CFO

b) Sign Bylaws

July 26, 2019 Report from Bonnie Danyk CAO / CFO

c) Rural Dividend Fund

August 6, 2019 Report from Bonnie Danyk CAO / CFO

98/19 Rural Dividend Fund

MOVED by Councillor Aldis / Seconded by Councillor Yunker

THAT the Village of Port Alice apply to the Rural Dividend Grant Program through the Single Applicant stream to fund the Interpretive Signage project for a total cost of \$100,000 CARRIED

d) MAIS Conference

August 6, 2019 Report from Bonnie Danyk CAO / CFO

99/19 MAIS Conference MOVED by Councillor Aldis / Seconded by Councillor Yunker

THAT Tanya Spafford be permitted to attend the MAIS Annual Conference in Vancouver on October 7&8, 2019 at a cost of \$1,800.

CARRIED

e) Accounts Payable Listing for June 2019

Report from Bonnie Danyk CAO / CFO

f) Summary of Revenue & Expenses for June 2019

Report from Bonnie Danyk CAO / CFO

g) Website Redesign Update - Discussion

ADJOURNMENT:

100/19 Adjournment

MOVED by Councillor Lloyd / Seconded by Councillor Yunker

THAT the Regular meeting of the Village of Port Alice held July 10, 2019, be adjourned at 7:30 pm

<u>CARRIED</u>

| I hereby certify the preceding to be a true a | and correct account of the Regular meeting of the | | | |
|--|---|--|--|--|
| Village of Port Alice Council held July 10, 20 | • | | | |
| | | | | |
| Mayor | | | | |
| Mayor Chief Administrative Officer | | | | |

NORTH ISLAND SECONDARY SCHOOL

"Our central focus is to enable all learners to fulfill their potential"

PO Box 100

Port McNeill, BC V0N 2R0 Telephone: (250) 956-3394

Fax: (250) 956-2035

Email: niss@sd85.bc.ca http://niss.ca

Acting Principal: Ms. S. Johnson Acting Vice Principal: Ms. E. Robertson

August 20, 2019

Ian Ford Trust Fund Bursary c/o Village of Port Alice PO Box 130 Port Alice, BC V0N 2N0

Dear Donor:

RE: Ian Ford Trust Fund Bursary

On behalf of the staff and students at North Island Secondary School, I would like to thank you for offering the Ian Ford Trust Fund Bursary to our graduating class of 2018- 2019. Your involvement in assisting our students to achieve their future goals benefits both the students and the community.

Again, we appreciate the support you give to our students in this and so many other ways.

Thank you.

Sincerely

Ms. S. Johnson Acting Principal

SD:tm Encl.



Bonnie Danyk CAO / CFO

VILLAGE OF PORT ALICE REPORT TO COUNCIL

| 10: | Mayor & Council |
|---|--|
| From: | CAO / CFO |
| Date: | September 6, 2019 |
| Subject: | RDMW and MWRHD Alternate Director |
| | |
| In December of Regional Distric | each year the Village of Port Alice appoints a director and an alternate director to sit on the tof Mount Waddington and Mount Waddington Regional Hospital District Boards. |
| | irector appointed for 2019 was Councillor Warren Beatty who has since resigned, therefore director will need to be chosen. |
| | TION: WHEREAS Council is required under the Local Government Act to annually appoint an nal District Director; |
| THAT Councillor of 2019. | is appointed as the Alternate Regional District Director for the remainder |
| | Council is required under the Local Government Act to annually appoint an Alternate al District Director; |
| THAT Councillor remainder of 20 | |
| Respectfully sub | mitted, |

VILLAGE OF PORT ALICE

Port Alice Volunteer Fire Department

Fire Chief's Monthly Report For the month of July, 2019

| Active Members 15 Number Of False Alarms | | Number Of False Alarms | 1 0 |
|--|---|------------------------|-----|
| On Leave | 1 | Mutual Aid Calls | 0 |
| Rescue Calls | 0 | Lift Assist Calls | 0 |
| Fire Calls | | Public Relation Events | 0 |

Practices:

| Date | Attendance | Purpose |
|---------|------------|--|
| July 1 | 8 | Canada Day Parade and Fireworks |
| July 2 | 5 | Truck #3 Maintenance and Fill SCBA Bottles |
| July 9 | 9 | Pumper Practice/Red Attack |
| July 16 | 8 | Low Slope Rescue Practice |
| July 23 | 9 | Low Slope Rescue Practice |
| July 30 | 5 | Truck Checks & Association Meeting |
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| Public Relation Situation Res Fire Chief: | | |
|---|------|--|
| Administrator: | Mayh | |

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INFORMATION ITEMS

BC HydroPower smart

Distribution Policy Notification

Telecommunication (Wifi and Microcell) equipment installed on municipal street facilities

We have received requests from telecommunication companies and municipalities to attach unmetered telecommunication equipment (such as Wifi, microcell, etc.) on municipality owned infrastructure (such as street lights, traffic signals, signs, and other similar facilities). These installations will allow the telecommunication companies to expand their wireless communication networks.

As this equipment will be connected to the municipality owned, secondary distribution system, we are unable to directly supply electricity to this equipment. Receiving electricity from BC Hydro through third party owned facilities is considered an indirect service connection. We don't allow indirect service connections because:

- We are unable to accommodate disconnections for the indirect service connections as the third party facilities will also be affected.
- We want to maintain a reliable service for our customers and we can't guarantee this in the case of indirect services as they are dependent on equipment not owned by BC Hydro. We have no control over the third party equipment and whether it is removed or altered in any way, impacting service to the downstream indirect connections.

As we will not accept indirect service connections, any requests for a BC Hydro account for this equipment must be requested by the municipality to us and:

- The municipality would be the owner and account holder of this service.
- The municipality will be responsible for the electricity used by the equipment.
- Any issues with the service or account will be dealt directly between BC Hydro and the municipality.
- The municipality will need to arrange directly with the telecommunication companies to recover costs for these accounts.

Note: A new account will be required for each individual piece of equipment connected downstream of municipal infrastructure. For example, if 4 Wifi units are slated to be installed on one street lighting circuit, the municipality will need to open 4 individual accounts.

Telecommunication companies may open an account directly with us if we provide a service connection directly to their equipment. If you would like to install telecommunication equipment on BC Hydro poles, or on facilities located on BC Hydro poles, you will need to contact us for review and approval. <u>Click here</u> for more information on attaching equipment to our poles.

To open an unmetered account, please fill out a <u>Telecommunications Equipment Request Form</u> and send it to telecom.equipment@bchydro.com.

Thank you.

BC Hydro Distribution Policy





Date: August 7, 2019

To: All UBCM Members and Group Benefit Plan Participants

SUBJECT: UBCM GROUP BENEFITS PLAN - NOTICE OF PLAN MARKETING REVIEW

This notice will serve as the formal announcement that in October 2019 UBCM will be conducting a Plan Marketing Review of the UBCM Group Benefits Plan for insurance services. These services are currently provided by Pacific Blue Cross/BC Life and the purpose of our review is to ensure that we are providing our membership with the best service and pricing available in the market.

Over the past few years, we have collected feedback from several of our groups regarding their experience within our program, and, although the majority of the comments received were positive, there were areas that could be improved to better serve our membership. It is also good plan governance to explore alternatives every five to ten years. This does **not** mean that any changes will necessarily be made to our program (i.e. transferring business to an alternate insurance carrier), but we want to ensure that full transparency is provided to our membership throughout this process.

To our member groups who are *currently participating* in the UBCM Group Benefit Plan:

- Your current benefits plan with Pacific Blue Cross should not experience any disruption as a result of this review;
- There is no cost or action required of you at this time;
- If a change in carrier is recommended following our review, no aspect of your current program will change without discussion with you and your approval;
- We will keep you up-to-date on our review as it proceeds; and
- If you have any comments or concerns regarding your group benefits plan that you would like us to review during this marketing, we would love to hear from you!

To our members who are *not currently participating* in the UBCM Group Benefit Plan:

 We wish to extend you an invitation to leverage this marketing review and join in the process with us.

With group insurance, a general rule of thumb is that the larger a group the better the economies of scale achieved. This is due to lower negotiated insurer administration charges (resulting in lower insurance premiums). For the purpose of this marketing review we are collaborating with the Healthcare Benefit Trust, a public sector not-for-profit organization which provides and administers benefits for over 100,000 covered lives. UBCM's consultant, George & Bell Consulting, will be coordinating the market review for all participants.

We are one of several other public sector organizations who are working together as part of this process and, in aggregate, this initiative is expected to be one of the largest group benefit marketing exercises ever conducted in Canada.



Challenges and issues navigating the group benefits industry include:

- Insurance companies charge expense factors based on individual group sizes which can limit the ability for groups to offer efficient programs;
- Without any leverage, employers are often forced to accept "insurance company standards" and are unable to achieve preferred financial terms or are limited in their plan designs;
- Employers are often engaged by brokers or consultants for redundant services conducted purely for their profit; and
- Employers generally aren't aware of what's "normal" to pay for group benefits or what options are available to them in the market.

Public sector organizations rarely work together to reduce costs. This marketing exercise is aimed at bringing more collaboration amongst organizations to reduce administration and costs, provide efficiencies and maintain the same coverage currently provided to members. Individually, we lack the leverage necessary to make meaningful change, however collectively we have size to negotiate lower costs and establish service commitments with insurance carriers on our terms and not theirs.

What is the cost to participate if you are not a current UBCM Group Plan member?

The cost varies by group size but is largely nominal and far less than you would pay to a broker or consulting firm to tender your business (whether through fee-for-service or embedded commissions). These costs are achieved through the economies of scale by working together with others in the public sector.

| Group Size | Flat Fee* | |
|--------------------------|-----------|--|
| <1,500 employees | \$1,500 | |
| 1,500 to 5,000 employees | \$4,000 | |
| 5,000 to 7,500 employees | \$7,000 | |
| >7,500 employees | \$10,000 | |

Why should you participate?

- Group benefit programs represent a significant cost for municipal groups;
- Costs have been increasing at a higher rate than compensation levels or inflation for several years;
- Many organizations are looking to contain costs without reducing the level of benefit coverage provided to their employees; and
- As part of good governance, employers should be testing the market, therefore why not conduct your marketing review now when you can participate with a larger buying group, at a much lower cost and the process is being managed by professionals.



Advantage of participating even if you are not a current UBCM Group Plan member?

- By participating you would **not be committing to any change** but you would receive quotations to continue to operate under your current structure (i.e., a governance exercise you should undertake periodically anyway).
- The administrative obligations required from groups in order to participate is minimal and a streamlined data request would be provided to those that elect to participate.
- The opportunity to participate in a group buying arrangement that we expect could potentially save 10% to 20% of your current group benefit costs, without changing plan design **or giving up your autonomy**.
- At the end of this Group Benefits Marketing Review process you will be able to compare current costs of your group benefits plan (status quo) with the cost of moving to other insurers and with the cost of joining a pooled arrangement.

The process has been designed to satisfy procurement requirements through the use of public tendering sites to ensure all providers are given an opportunity to respond. At the end of the process, you would be under no obligation to change any aspect of your current program.

The deadline for members of UBCM not currently with the UBCM Group Plan to notify us of participation with this marketing review is October 2, 2019.

If you have any questions or you would like to discuss this initiative further, please don't hesitate to reach out to UBCM directly - Anna Wijesinghe or Kathleen Spalek for more information:

Anna Wijesinghe Manager, Member & Association Services phone 604-270-8226 ext 111 amwijesinghe@ubcm.ca Kathleen Spalek, CPA, CGA Chief Financial Officer phone: 604-270-8226 ext 102 kspalek@ubcm.ca

Thank for your continued support of UBCM and the UBCM Group Benefits Plan.

| Ta . | | |
|------|--|--|

info@portalice.ca

From:

Bruce & Nicole <brunic@shaw.ca>

Sent:

Tuesday, August 13, 2019 2:02 PM

To:

info@portalice.ca

Subject:

UBCM - Strathcona RD Groundwater Resolution

Mayor and Councillors;

I am submitting this request as a follow-up for the protection of groundwater in BC. I was very pleased to see the unanimous vote at the AVICC convention for the Strathcona Regional District Resolution asking the provincial government to "cease the licencing and extraction of groundwater for commercial water bottling and/or bulk water exports from aquifers". The resolution has been approved and accepted for the agenda of the UBCM convention in September. The vote at the UBCM will be the critical final step for the resolution to be presented to the provincial government.

I appreciate your support of the resolution at the AVICC level, and I ask once again for your support at the UBCM. Please continue to support this important resolution that will provide a critical measure of protection for groundwater all over BC.

Thank you.

Bruce Gibbons

Merville Water Guardians

2470 Sackville Road

Merville, BC V0R2M0

250-702-1672



Virus-free. www.avg.com



Ref: 247228

August 15, 2019

His Worship Mayor Kevin Cameron and Councillors Village of Port Alice Box 130 Port Alice BC VON 2NO

Dear Mayor Cameron and Councillors:

On behalf of the joint Provincial-Union of British Columbia Municipalities (UBCM) Green Communities Committee (GCC), we would like to extend our congratulations for successfully achieving your goal of corporate carbon neutrality for the 2018 reporting year.

As a signatory to the Climate Action Charter, you have demonstrated your commitment to work with the Province of British Columbia and UBCM to take action on climate change and to reduce greenhouse gas emissions in your community and corporate operations.

The work that your local government has undertaken to reduce and offset its corporate emissions demonstrates significant climate leadership and sets the stage for broader climate action in the community. Your leadership and commitment continues to be essential to ensuring the achievement of our collective climate action goals.

The GCC was established under the Charter to support local governments in achieving their climate goals. In acknowledgement of the efforts of local leaders, the GCC is again recognizing the progress and achievements of local governments such as yours through the multi-level Climate Action Recognition Program. A description of this program is enclosed for your reference.

As a Charter signatory who achieved Level 1, Level 2 and Level 3 recognition, and additionally met the goal of corporate carbon neutrality for the 2018 reporting year, you have been awarded Level 4 recognition – 'Achievement of Carbon Neutrality'.

In recognition of your significant achievements, the GCC is pleased to provide you with carbon neutral branding for use on official websites and letterheads. An electronic file with the 2018 logo will be provided to your Chief Administrative Officer via email. Also enclosed is a *BC Climate Action Community 2018 – Climate Leader - Carbon Neutral* window decal, for use on public buildings.

Mayor Cameron and Councillors Page 2

Congratulations again on your continually improving achievement. We applaud your leadership and wish you continued success in your ongoing commitment to the goal of corporate carbon neutrality, and your efforts to reduce emissions in the broader community.

Sincerely,

Tara Faganello
Assistant Deputy Minister

Local Government Division

Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing

Enclosures

Gary MacIsaac

Executive Director

Union of British Columbia Municipalities



District of Chetwynd

Box 357 Chetwynd, BC Canada V0C 1.10

tel: (250) 401-4100 fax: (250) 401-4101 email: d-chet@gochetwynd.com

August 19, 2019

The Honourable Rob Fleming Minister of Education P.O. Box 9045 Stn Prov Govt Victoria, BC V8W 9E2

Via email: EDUC.Minister@gov.bc.ca

Dear Minister Fleming:

Re: Provincial Support for Libraries

At the Regular Council Meeting on August 12, 2019, the District of Chetwynd Council passed a resolution endorsing the City of Victoria's request for Provincial support for libraries.

Accordingly, District of Chetwynd Mayor and Council hereby respectfully request the Province of British Columbia's support and consideration to increase support to restore Provincial funding for libraries. District of Chetwynd Mayor and Council supports the restoration of library funding to a level that reflects both inflation cost increases since 2009 and the value of this system to the Province.

Sincerely,

DISTRICT OF CHETWYND

Allen Courtoreille

Mayor

cc: Premier John Horgan premier@gov.bc.ca

MP Bob Zimmer bob.zimmer.cla@parl.gc.ca

MLA Mike Bernier M.Bernier@leg.bc.ca

UBCM Member Municipalities

info@portalice.ca

From:

Jessie Christophersen < Jessie@rcbc.ca>

Sent:

Wednesday, August 21, 2019 2:59 PM

To:

undisclosed-recipients:

Subject:

PROCLAMATION REQUEST - Waste Reduction Week 2019

Attachments:

2019 Sample Municipal Proclamation.pdf; jc_Sample Municipal Proclamation.pub

Hi there,

Proclaim Your Support for Waste Reduction Week in Canada!

Each year the <u>Recycling Council of British Columbia</u> (RCBC) organizes BC's involvement in observing this important week. We would like to ask all municipal councils in British Columbia to officially declare October 21st through 27th, 2019 as Waste Reduction Week in their respective communities.

<u>Waste Reduction Week in Canada</u> is intended to raise awareness about waste and its environmental and social impacts. The theme of Waste Reduction Week, "Too Good to Waste", is meant to draw attention to the richness and diversity of the natural world and the importance of working towards ecological sustainability through waste avoidance and resource conservation.

Please join RCBC in proclaiming October 21st – 27th, 2019 as National Waste Reduction Week in Canada and lending your support!

I have attached a sample Municipal Proclamation in PDF and in Publisher form for your convenience. Of course, you are free to use your own Proclamation format, too.

Completed Proclamations can be emailed, faxed or mailed as per the contact information below. Thanks for your continued support of this important event!

Regards,

Jessie

Jessie Christophersen

Information Services Assistant
Recycling Council of British Columbia

#10 - 119 W. Pender Street, Van., BC V6B 1S5

E: jessie@rcbc.ca W: www.rcbc.ca Fax: (604)683-7255

T: (604) 683-6009 ext. 317

Download the BC Recyclepedia app:





Virus-free. www.avg.com



(Name of Municipality)

hereby recognizes

Waste Reduction Week in Canada October 21-27, 2019

As a municipality, we are committed to conserving resources, protecting the environment and educating the community.

We recognize the generation of solid waste and the needless waste of water and energy resources as global environmental problems and endeavor to take the lead in our community toward environmental sustainability.

We have declared October 21-27, 2019, Waste Reduction Week in

| Municipality | | | |
|--------------|-------------------|--|--|
| Signed | Date | | |
| | Name and Position | | |



Please send this declaration to the Recycling Council of BC By fax at 604-683-7255 or by email at wrw@rcbc.ca. We thank you again for your commitment to waste reduction.





August 22, 2019

Kevin Cameron Mayor Village of Port Alice Box 130 1061 Marine Dr Port Alice, BC V0N 2N0

Dear Kevin Cameron,

The 2019 federal election is fast approaching, bringing public discussion and debates on many issues affecting the public and all municipalities.

When the Liberal government led the latest public review on the future of Canada Post, several municipalities became actively involved in the process. As a result, the government decided to maintain door-to-door delivery and immediately stop the rollout of community mailboxes.

However, there is nothing to stop a new government from bringing those plans, and other service cuts, back into play. Further, Canada Post's indifference towards climate change may have direct repercussions on all Canadians.

Did you know Canada Post has the largest public fleet of vehicles in the country, with over 13,000 vehicles travelling over 96 million kilometres yearly?

In the run-up to the federal election, we urge you to question the political parties on their intentions for Canada Post, and insist they make clear, public commitments regarding the following issues:

- Establishing postal banking to offset the loss of financial services in many communities;
- Creating an ambitious climate change action plan for Canada Post;
- Maintaining door-to-door mail delivery;
- Preserving our universal and public postal service;
- Maintaining rural post offices.

More information is available at delivering community power.ca.

Sincerely,

Jan Simpson National President

Encl.

c.c. National Executive Committee, Regional Executive Committees, Regional and National Union Representatives, specialists, campaign coordinators

/bk sepb 225 cd/cupe1979

AUTHORIZED BY THE OFFICIAL AGENT FOR THE CANADIAN UNION OF POSTAL WORKERS.
Canadian Union of Postal Workers • 377 Bank Street • Ottawa, ON • K2P 1Y3 • 613-236-7238
AUTORISÉ PAR L'AGENT OFFICIEL DU SYNDICAT DES TRAVAILLEURS ET TRAVAILLEUSES DES POSTES.
Syndicat des travailleurs et travailleuses des postes • 377, que Bank • Ottawa (Ontario) • K2P 1Y3 • (613) 236-7238



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August 22, 2019

Honourable Rob Fleming Minister of Education Room 124 Parliament Buildings Victoria, BC V8V 1X4

Dear Minister Fleming,

I write to you today to appeal for increased provincial support for public libraries, particularly in light of the on-going freeze to library funding.

Libraries are one of the cornerstones of our community – they provide spaces for life-long learning and social connection, with services for toddlers, seniors, and everyone in between. As we work to transform North Vancouver into a compact, highly livable city, access to public spaces with robust programming will become all the more important for our residents.

Our city's population has grown by almost 10 per cent over the past five years, but the provincial grants to the North Vancouver City Library have decreased by 12.6% over that same period. I urge your government to commit to a model of predictable funding for libraries, a model that reflects the value these institutions have in communities across the province.

At the July 8, 2019 meeting of City Council, our Council in the City of North Vancouver unanimously adopted the following resolution:

"THAT the correspondence from Stephen Smith, Library Board Chair, North Vancouver City Library, dated June 24, 2019, regarding "Provincial Support for Public Libraries", be received with thanks;

WHEREAS public libraries require continuous and increasing investment to provide opportunities for life-long learning, build community and increase equity and social inclusion;

WHEREAS restoring funding to public libraries supports the BC Government's agenda to eliminate poverty, improve access to education and address social justice in BC;

AND WHEREAS provincial funding for public libraries has remained unchanged since 2009 while costs to deliver services and public demand for library services have increased, demonstrating a regressive approach of shifting costs to municipal property tax payers;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Mayor, on behalf of Council, write a letter to Minister Fleming asking that the BC Government restore library funding to a minimum of \$20 million annually to reflect inflationary and population increases and recommit to a progressive funding approach, considering the role of public libraries in achieving the goals of the Province and our communities, with a copy forwarded to Union of British Columbia Municipalities (UBCM) and UBCM member municipalities;

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT Council support the resolutions appealing for increased provincial funding for public libraries at the upcoming UBCM meeting."

I will continue to advocate for this issue throughout our upcoming meetings with representatives from the provincial government at UBCM, and look forward to your response on the matter.

Best Regards,

Linda Buchanan

Mayor