

**VILLAGE OF PORT ALICE
COUNCIL MEETING AGENDA**
TO BE HELD WEDNESDAY APRIL 14, 2021 at 7:00 pm
IN THE SEA VIEW ACTIVITY CENTRE



(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 (6:00 pm)

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

Section 90 (c) labour relations or other employee relations;

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;

RECONVENE

(3) ADOPTION OF AGENDA:

THAT the Agenda for the Meeting of the Village of Port Alice for April 14, 2021, be approved; AND THAT all delegations, reports, correspondence, and other information set to the agenda be received for information.

(4) DELEGATIONS: N\A

(5) MINUTES:

Pg 3-4

a.) *THAT the Minutes from the Regular Meeting of March 24, 2021, be approved.*

(6) OLD BUSINESS:

Pg 5-15

a.) Updated Marina Report

April 7, 2021, Report from Tanya Spafford, Admin Assistant

(7) COMMUNICATIONS:

Pg 17-19

a.) Marina Usage Business Permit

April 7, 2021, Email from Teri-Ann & Brent Coulas

(8) NEW BUSINESS:

(9) REPORTS:

Pg 21

a.) Regular Report

April 8, 2021, Report from Bonnie Danyk, CAO\CFO

(10) BYLAWS:

Pg 23-28

a.) Bylaw 665, 2021 – Port Alice Financial Plan 2021-2025

Recommendation

THAT Bylaw 665 – Financial Plan 2021-2025 be given fourth reading and adoption.

b.) Bylaw 666, 2021 – Port Alice Tax Bylaw for 2021 – To be handed out at meeting

Recommendation

THAT Bylaw 666 – Port Alice Tax bylaw for 2021 be given first, second, third reading.

**VILLAGE OF PORT ALICE
COUNCIL MEETING AGENDA
TO BE HELD WEDNESDAY APRIL 14, 2021 at 7:00 pm
IN THE SEA VIEW ACTIVITY CENTRE**



(11) QUESTION PERIOD:

(12) ADJOURNMENT:

THAT the meeting of the Village of Port Alice Council held April 14, 2021, be adjourned

INFORMATION ITEMS:

- a.) March 30, 2021, Email from Industrial Reporting and Control office BC Climate Action Secretariat, re B.C.'s draft Forest Carbon Offset Protocol Engagement
- b.) March 31, 2021, UBCM News release re Legislation aims to double federal Gas Tax fund
- c.) April 2, 2021, Email from Brian Grover, re Port Alice Shuttle Survey
- d.) April 6, 2021, Email from Lois Jarvis re North Island Hospital Labs
- e.) April 6, 2021, Newsletter Office of the Seniors Advocate Monthly Update – April 2021
- f.) April 8, 2021, North Island College News Release NIC Student Hope Campaign needs help to reach goal
- g.) April 8, 2021, UBCM News Release re Federal Gas Tax Fund: 2021 Update

VILLAGE OF PORT ALICE COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
WEDNESDAY MARCH 24, 2021
AT SEA VIEW ACTIVITY CENTRE



Present Mayor Kevin Cameron
Councillor Holly Aldis
Councillor Bruce Lloyd
Councillor Angela Yunker
Councillor Sean Watson

Staff Bonnie Danyk CAO / CFO

CALL TO ORDER: 6:30 pm

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:

28/21
Resolution
to go In-
Camera

Section 90 (c) labour relations or other employee relations;

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;

RECONVENE: 7:00 pm

ADOPTION OF AGENDA:

Moved, Seconded and CARRIED

28/21 Adopt
ion of
Agenda

THAT the Agenda for the Meeting of the Village of Port Alice for March 24, 2021, be approved with the addition of TELUS Tower under OLD BUSINESS ;AND **THAT** all delegations, reports, correspondence, and other information set to the agenda be received for information.

CARRIED

DELEGATION: N\A

MINUTES:

Moved, Seconded and CARRIED

29/21
Minutes
March 10

THAT the minutes for the Regular Council Meeting held on March 10, 2021 be adopted.

OLD BUSINESS:

Moved, Seconded and CARRIED

30/21
TELUS

RECOMMENDATION brought forward from Closed meeting: **THAT** Council supports TELUS in the commencement of the Cell Tower Community Consultation process which includes area resident notification, newspaper notice and land use concurrence request.

COMMUNICATIONS:

Streetlighting Application Rate Update

31/21
BC Hydro

Moved, Seconded and CARRIED

THAT a letter be sent to the BC Utilities Commission regarding the surcharge rate for the disposal of existing lights and their associated depreciation costs.

NEW BUSINESS: Mayor Cameron gave a verbal report on the meeting with RDMW Directors and WFP.

REPORTS:

Fire Chief's Monthly Report for February

March 1, 2021, Report from Fire Chief Gerry Rose

Marina Rates

March 9, 2021, Report from Tanya Spafford, Administrative Assistant

32/21
Marina
Rates

Moved, Seconded and CARRIED

THAT the Report be tabled

Accounts Payable Listing for February 2021

March 19, 2021, Report from Bonnie Danyk, CAO/CFO

ICET Rural Business & Community Recovery Program

March 19, 2021, Report from Bonnie Danyk, CAO/CFO

33/21
ICET

Moved, Seconded and CARRIED

THAT the Village of Port Alice apply to the ICET Rural Business & Recover Program for a Part time Economic Development Officer

BYLAWS:

Bylaw 665 – Financial Plan 2021-2025

34/21
Bylaw 665
Financial
Plan 3rd
reading

Moved, Seconded and CARRIED

THAT bylaw 665 – Financial Plan for 2021-2025 be given third reading

QUESTION PERIOD:

ADJOURNMENT:

35/21
Adjournment

Moved, Seconded and CARRIED

THAT the Regular meeting of the Village of Port Alice held March 24, 2021, be adjourned at 8:00 pm

I hereby certify the preceding to be a true and correct account of the Regular meeting of the Village of Port Alice Council held March 24, 2021.

Mayor

Chief Administrative Officer

VILLAGE OF PORT ALICE

Report to Council

TO: Mayor and Council
FROM: Tanya Spafford, Administrative Assistant
DATE: April 7, 2021
SUBJECT: Update Report - Marina Rates

Background

Additional information was requested at the March 24th council meeting regarding local area marina rates. Full harbour rates for Port Hardy, Port McNeill, and Port Alice are attached for information purposes. Coal Harbour does not have rates listed online, and they are not set through bylaw so can be subject to change at the discretion of the owner\operator.

Port Hardy

Launch Fees

Daily Launch Fee \$5.60

Annual Launch Fee –

Residents Only \$112

Parking Fees

Single vehicle Daily \$5.60

Single vehicle monthly \$66

Annual vehicle annual \$96

Port McNeill

Launch\Parking

Daily \$10

Annual Resident \$100

Annual non-resident \$160

Parking: Single Vehicle

Daily \$5\day

Monthly \$75

Annual \$225

Coal Harbour – private marina

Launch Daily \$10

Parking Daily \$5

Moorage Daily \$10 up to 25'

Port Alice

Launch\Parking

Daily \$10

Annual Resident \$80

Rumble Beach options

1. Leave fees as they are;

Possible implication: this may deter out of town visitors, staying at local businesses, to use the launch for extended periods of time. This could result in lower moorage revenues.

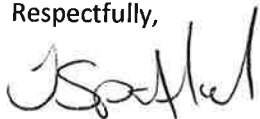
2. Add a non-resident parking\launch fee; Suggestion - \$120-\$150 annually

Possible implication: many out of town visitors appreciate the convenience of only having to purchase a pass once and would choose this route over \$10 daily parking, even if the cost is a bit higher for them. As well, it would create a more reasonable cost for those choosing to use the marina for a month at a time.

3. Add a parking rate for month long moorage users;

Possible implication: this would give incentive for long term marina usage. It could also create issues for the Marina manager if people decide to argue the rates when staying for 2 or 3 weeks.

Respectfully,



Tanya Spafford, Admin Assistant

PORT HARDY HARBOUR FEE PAYMENTS ARE ACCEPTED BY:

1. Wharfinger office – cash, cheque, debit & credit card.
2. District office – cash, cheque, debit & credit card.

NOTE: PAYTM is no longer accepted

GENERAL MOORAGE RATES

DAY/FOOT	\$0.93
WEEKLY/FOOT	\$5.34
MONTHLY/FOOT	\$8.57
YEARLY/MONTH/FOOT	\$54.81
SEAGATE PIER/DAY/FOOT *	\$0.93

**Summer T-Floats at the Seagate Pier*

*Same as above listed prices; vessels under 18m/60ft or 100GT only **NO CFV***

COMMERCIAL FISHING VESSEL RATES

DAY/FOOT	\$0.175
MONTHLY/FOOT	\$2.72
YEARLY/MONTH/FOOT	\$18.51
SEAGATE PIER/DAY/FOOT	\$0.93

Summer T-Floats at the Seagate Pier

Same as above listed prices; vessels under 18m/60ft only

POWER

20 AMP/DAY	\$4.10
30 AMP/DAY	\$6.00
60 AMP/DAY	\$12.00
20 AMP/MONTH	\$62.20
30 AMP/MONTH	\$96.10
60 AMP/MONTH	\$199.80

LAUNCH FEES

LAUNCH FEE DAILY	\$5.60
ANNUAL LAUNCH FEE (LOCAL RESIDENT)	\$112.00
COMMERCIAL LAUNCH DAILY	\$11.20
ANNUAL COMMERCIAL LAUNCH FEE	\$150.00

*Rates include applicable tax**

PARKING

SINGLE VEHICLE DAILY	\$5.60
VEHICLE & TRAILER DAILY	\$11.20

SINGLE VEHICLE WEEKLY	\$21.00
VEHICLE & TRAILER TRAILER WEEKLY	\$42.00
SINGLE VEHICLE MONTHLY	\$66.00
VEHICLE & TRAILER MONTHLY	\$132.00
ANNUAL VEHICLE PASS	\$96.00
ANNUAL VEHICLE AND TRAILER	\$192.00
REPLACEMENT PASS	\$5.60

*Applies to Fishermans Wharf and Seine Docks Parking Areas**
*Rates include applicable tax**

SERVICES & OTHER FEES

SEWER PUMP OUT (VESSELS LESS THAN 12M)	\$10.70
SEWER PUMP OUT (VESSELS GREATER THAN 12M)	\$28.51

Mon - Fri, 08:00 - 17:00 or call for appointment

BOAT MAINTENANCE & PUMP OUT FEE/HOUR	\$60.20
--------------------------------------	---------

1 Hour Minimum

SIGN RENTAL, FISHERMANS WHARF (16"X16")	\$36.30
--------------------------------------------	---------

SIGN RENTAL, FISHERMANS WHARF (GREATER THAN 16"X16")	\$71.40
---------------------------------------------------------	---------

NSF CHEQUE	\$25.00
------------	---------

BEAR COVE RECREATION SITE

MOORAGE DAILY/FOOT	\$0.93
--------------------	--------

MOORAGE WEEKLY/FOOT	\$5.34
---------------------	--------

POWER - PREPAID 20 AMP/DAY	\$4.34
----------------------------	--------

LAUNCH FEE (GST INCLUDED)	\$5.50
---------------------------	--------

Rates do not include applicable tax

Schedule "B"
HARBOUR RATES

1.0 RATE RULES:

- 1.1 All rates are subject to GST unless otherwise noted.
- 1.2 A person must pay the rate set out below in advance.
- 1.3 All services shall be consecutive unless otherwise noted.
- 1.4 A person shall pay Municipal Harbour rates for all *vessels* moored at the *Municipal Harbour*, even if the person has already paid the Federal rates as set out in the *fees*.

2.0 MUNICIPAL HARBOUR

2.1 No charge for tenders if within the footprint of the main vessel.

2.2 Daily Rates – Summer: May 01 – Sept. 30

Day (overnight, more than 5 hours)	\$ 1.00 per foot
Day (more than 2 hours)	\$ 0.55 per foot

2.3 Daily Rates – Winter: October 01 – April 30

Day (overnight)	\$ 0.50 per foot
-----------------	------------------

2.4 Monthly Rates – Summer:

Transient	\$20.00 per foot
Port McNeill <i>Resident</i>	\$10.00 per foot

2.5 Monthly Rates – Winter:

Transient	\$10.00 per foot
Port McNeill <i>Resident</i>	\$ 5.00 per foot

2.6 Annual Rate (April – March):

- a) Includes parking pass;
- b) Is subject to the following conditions:
 - i. The rate shall be non-transferable;
 - ii. The rate shall only be available if a person pays in advance;
 - iii. The rate shall not be pro-rated;
 - iv. A person shall not be entitled to receive a refund for monthly or daily charges assessed prior to the person making a late annual payment; and
 - v. A person apply for the rate is a full-time *resident*

- c) 20% *senior* discount for *resident* with advanced payment and proof of age for annual moorage only.

<i>Reserved Resident</i>	\$45.00 per foot
<i>Non-reserved Resident</i>	\$40.00 per foot
<i>Reserved or non-reserved non-resident</i>	\$65.00 per foot

3.0 FEDERAL/SMALL CRAFT HARBOUR RATES:

3.1 The following rates shall apply to the *Federal Dock* only:

3.2 No new annual *Pleasure Boats* permitted.

3.3 Monthly or daily charges non-reversible for late annual payment.

3.4 Daily Rates:

Commercial Fishing Vessels (CFV)	\$ 0.20 per foot
Non-CFV (commercial)	\$ 0.30 per foot
<i>Pleasure boats</i>	\$ 0.75 per foot

3.5 Monthly Rates:

CFV (non-consecutive)	\$ 3.00 per foot
Non-CFV (consecutive) (commercial)	\$ 4.50 per foot

3.6 Annual Rates:

- a) Includes Parking Pass (non-transferable).
- b) Only available if paid in advance, no pro-rating.

CFV	\$12.60 per foot
Non-CFV (commercial)	\$20.00 per foot
<i>Pleasure boats</i>	\$32.00 per foot

3.7 *Live Aboard* Service Charge:

- a) moorage not included,
- b) regular rates apply
- c) includes 30amp power

Utilities with <i>Live Aboard</i> contract	\$800.00 annually
--------------------------------------------	-------------------

4.0 COMMERCIAL USE

4.1 MOT Dock (Wharfhead):

Daily moorage	\$ 0.30 per foot
Storage lockers (annual rates January 1 – December 31)	\$300.00
Load/offload	\$ 55.00 per use
Load/offload (annual rates January 1 – December 31)	\$250.00

4.2 Concrete dock (drive on):

- a) *Pleasure Boat* users with annual reserved moorage exempt if under 2 hours.
- b) *Vessels* exceeding posted time limit or overnight mooring on loading dock(s) are subject to a \$100.00 charge unless pre-arranged with *Harbour Manager*.

Daily moorage (pre-arranged only)	\$ 1.10 per foot
Load/offload (commercial/resort/water taxis/crew boats*)	\$10.00 per use
Annual load/offload pass (commercial/resort/ water taxis/ crew boats*)	\$300.00
Load/offload - shipping/dock use (fish/supplies/mechanical)	\$10.00 per use
Annual load/offload – shipping/doc (fish/supplies/mechanical)	\$300.00
Pre-arranged storage	\$35.00 per day
Pre-arranged storage	\$300.00 per month

4.3 General Use:

- a) Advanced payment of this fee per single vehicle includes:
 - i. commercial boat launch pass,
 - ii. parking,
 - iii. concrete dock use

Servicing	\$500.00
Per additional vehicle	\$ 25.00

5.0 PARKING/BOAT LAUNCH

- a) All fees:
 - i. are payable in advance;
 - ii. are non-refundable;
 - iii. shall not be pro-rated.

5.1 Parking: Single vehicle

Hour	\$ 1.00
Day	\$ 5.00
Month	\$ 75.00
Annual parking (Apr. 1 – Mar. 31)	\$225.00

5.2 Boat Launch: Vehicle and trailer

Launch/park (per day)	\$ 10.00
Launch/park (per week)	\$ 35.00
Season launch pass – Port McNeill Resident Only (includes one day of parking each day of launch)	\$ 100.00
Annual Commercial/Non-Resident (Apr. 1 – Mar. 31)	\$ 160.00

6.0 POWER

- a) Rates in this section will change annually as per Bylaw No. 678, 2017
Harbour Annual Electrical Fees.

6.1 Daily rates:

20 amp	\$ 5.20
30 amp	\$ 7.30
50 amp	\$ 12.50
100 amp	\$ 20.80

6.2 Monthly rates:

20 amp	\$ 46.80
30 amp	\$ 78.00
50 amp	\$124.80
100 amp	\$208.00

7.0 ADDITIONAL CHARGES

- a) Wastewater pump out free for users with annual *reserved* moorage.

Foreshore JIB Crane	\$ 10.00 per use
Foreshore JIB Crane annual	\$300.00
Wastewater Pump Out	\$ 10.00 per use
Wastewater Pump Out annual	\$300.00
Showers	\$ 5.00 per day
Showers	\$ 20.00 key deposit
NSF Cheques	\$ 25.00 per cheque
Emergency Pump Out	\$150.00 per hour

VILLAGE OF PORT ALICE

BYLAW NO. 662

SCHEDULE N – MARINA RATES

The following fees and charges shall be in effect at the Port Alice Municipal Marina and designated parking lots:

Rates Include Applicable Taxes

Daily Moorage Rate for Recreational Vessels per foot per day	\$ 1.00
Monthly Moorage Rate for Recreational Vessels per foot	\$ 12.50
Daily Moorage Rate for Commercial Vessels per foot per day	\$.50
Monthly Moorage Rate for Commercial Vessels per foot	\$6.25
Vehicle parking permit – Daily (Includes Boat Launch)	\$10.00
Vehicle parking permit – Annual (Includes Boat Launch), Residents Only*	\$80.00
Service Charge: Any service undertaken to resolve a vessel related emergency or nuisance at the Marina shall be charged to the owner of the vessel at actual costs plus \$150 and shall not be less than \$150.	\$150.00 plus actual costs
Replacement Annual Pass	\$5.00
Secondary Annual Pass	\$5.00
Slip Reservation Fee to be paid annually in advance	\$1,260
Trailer Parking after 24 hours	\$5.00 per day
*Resident means a person who is: a) a resident as defined under the Elections Act; or b) A sole shareholder or senior shareholder of corporations that own real property within the Municipal boundaries.	
Fee for Vendors to set up at Marina	
Daily Rate	\$ 5.60
Weekly Rate	\$33.60
Monthly Rate	\$112.00

Tanya

From:
Sent: Wednesday, April 7, 2021 7:25 PM
To: info@portalice.ca
Subject: Marina Usage Business Permit

Hello Tanya,

It was great speaking with you today and thank-you for offering to take our request forward to council. We did not consider that it would need to go this route, but happy to do so.

A little bit about us and what we're requesting...

We are Brent and Teri-Ann Coulas, a young 60-something couple from Ucluelet, owners-operators of a busy and successful vacation rental business in Ucluelet for the past 20 years. We've just sold our business and property in Ucluelet and bought a house in Port Alice, moving in May and really looking forward to a change of pace in such a beautiful area. We're not yet ready to retire, though, looking to establish a small business presence in town, on a smaller scale, using our honed skills in the tourism industry and other combined skills. The venture we're looking at would require yearly moorage at the marina for a 50 ft. boat, beautiful boat, that would accommodate guests on a weekly basis, no more than 3 guests at a time and no visitors. Part of their stay may also include a nature cruise around the sound. We are aware that there is no power at the marina, which is ok, the vessel we've chosen is equipped with solar power and would make an outstanding "off grid" accommodation, which is how we'd prefer to market it. As "landlords" we'd be close by if anything needed our attention immediately.

We understand that current marina usage does not allow more than 2 weeks at a time for persons living aboard and that our business proposal does not fit into this category based on revolving occupants, unknown at this time what the occupancy rate will be like in Port Alice. We are respectfully requesting that an allowance be made for our unique business needs.

The boat...

The 'Sechelt Chief' is a beautifully converted wood-hull tug, built in 1938, with an extensive working history on the BC Coast. Last inspection reported the vessel in excellent shape.

<http://prtugboats.blogspot.com/2013/03/sechelt-chief.html>

The boat is currently moored in Ucluelet with its present owner, we are engaged with him in making a deal to purchase that would be based on our findings in Port Alice whether or not we could create a viable business. Hoping to have all of this finalized within the next couple of weeks.

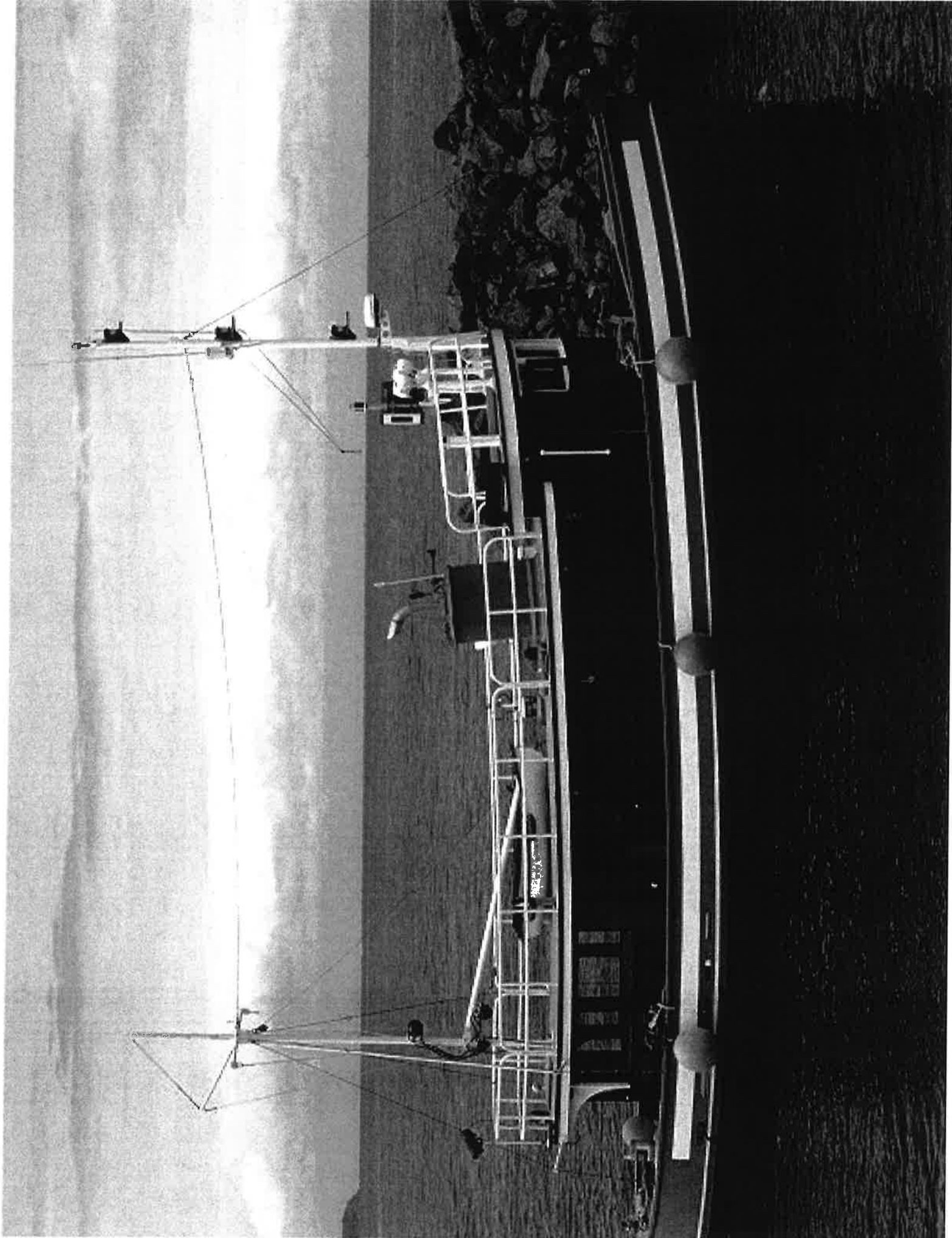
Anything you can do to bring this to the attention of council as soon as possible would be greatly appreciated.

Let us know if further information is required.

We look forward to your reply.

Sincerely,

Teri-Ann & Brent





REPORT TO COUNCIL

To: Mayor & Council
From: Chief Administrative Officer
Date: April 8, 2021
Subject: Regular Report

Kayak Launch and Storage Grant

The Village of Port Alice has signed the agreement with the Province of BC and the grant funds have been received in our bank account. An RFP was issued on BC bid for a project manager. The RFP closes on April 23, 2021.

Marina Building

Fixtures (paper towel holders, soap dispensers etc.) and the shower meters were installed. The building was cleaned and sanitized and will be open to the public on April 9, 2021.

Finance

Chan Nowosad and Boates completed their site visit for the annual financial audit last week. The accounts are being finalized and the Financial Statements should be ready at the end of April. Utility Bills will be sent out this Month and are due on May 31, 2021.

Recreation

Island Health will be having Covid-19 vaccination clinics in the Community Centre gym in April and May. The Community Centre will be closed for regular programming on the days the clinics are being held.

New Provincial Health orders came out in March regarding fitness and we temporarily closed the weight room for a day until we received confirmation that we could continue to have it open if the users follow our Covid Safety Plan.

Public Works

The annual Village clean up was held the week of April 5. This was the busiest clean-up we have had in years and we had to call in our casual PW worker to help direct people at the transfer station.

Respectfully submitted,

Bonnie Danyk
Chief Administrative Officer

**VILLAGE OF PORT ALICE
BYLAW NO. 665, 2021**

BEING A BYLAW FOR THE VILLAGE OF PORT ALICE FINANCIAL PLAN 2021 - 2025

WHEREAS, under section 165 of the Community Charter the Council of the Village of Port Alice is required to adopt a financial plan before the annual property tax bylaw is adopted.

NOW THEREFORE, the Council of the Village of Port Alice, in open meeting assembled, enacts as follows:

1. Schedule "A" attached to and forming part of this Bylaw is the Village of Port Alice Financial Plan 2021 – 2025, Revenues and Expenditures.
2. Schedule "B" attached to and forming part of this Bylaw is the Village of Port Alice Financial Plan 2021 – 2025 Statement of Objectives and Policies.
3. This Bylaw may be cited for all purposes as the "Village of Port Alice Financial Plan 2021 - 2025 Bylaw No.664, 2021".

READ A FIRST AND SECOND TIME THIS 10th DAY OF MARCH 2021.

PUBLIC CONSULTATION HELD FROM MARCH 17 to MARCH 24, 2021.

READ A THIRD TIME THIS 24th DAY OF MARCH 2021.

RECONSIDERED, AND ADOPTED THIS 14th DAY OF APRIL 2021.

Mayor

Chief Administrative Officer

Certified a true copy of Bylaw No.665, as adopted by Council on the 14th day of April 2021.

Chief Administrative Officer

VILLAGE OF PORT ALICE
BYLAW NO. 665, 2021

VILLAGE OF PORT ALICE FINANCIAL PLAN 2021 - 2025
Bylaw No. 665, 2021 - Schedule 'A' REVENUES

REVENUES	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
Property Taxes	\$620,450	\$776,571	\$777,581	\$788,702	\$799,934
Utility/Grant in Place of Taxes	\$22,500	\$22,725	\$22,953	\$23,182	\$23,413
Total Taxation	\$642,950	\$799,296	\$800,534	\$811,884	\$823,347
Fees and Charges					
Garbage Rates/Penalties	\$65,000	\$65,650	\$66,307	\$66,970	\$67,639
Recreation Supplies and Services	\$5,400	\$5,454	\$5,509	\$5,564	\$5,619
Recreation Facilities Rentals	\$13,750	\$13,888	\$14,026	\$14,167	\$14,308
Licenses/Permits	\$8,500	\$8,585	\$8,671	\$8,758	\$8,845
Water Utility	\$61,000	\$61,610	\$62,226	\$62,848	\$63,477
Sewer Utility	\$142,000	\$143,420	\$144,854	\$146,303	\$147,766
Other Revenue	\$51,000	\$51,510	\$52,025	\$52,545	\$53,071
Total Fees and Charges	\$346,650	\$350,117	\$353,618	\$357,155	\$360,725
Other Revenue					
Federal Govt Grants	\$1,100	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Provincial Govt Grants -	\$3,616,530	\$426,989	\$427,079	\$427,170	\$427,261
Regional District of Mt. Waddington	\$2,500	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Total Other Revenue	\$3,620,130	\$426,989	\$427,079	\$427,170	\$427,261
Appropriation from Reserve					
Appropriation from NICF Funds	\$56,670	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Appropriation from Surplus	\$70,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Appropriation from Deferred Revenue: Gas Tax Fun	\$275,000	\$40,000	\$0	\$0	\$0
Appropriation from Covid Recovery Funds	\$90,000				
Total Appropriation from Reserve	\$491,670	\$40,000	\$0	\$0	\$0
Funds Transfers	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
TOTAL LOCAL GOVERNMENT REVENUE	\$5,101,400	\$1,616,402	\$1,581,231	\$1,596,209	\$1,611,333

**VILLAGE OF PORT ALICE
BYLAW NO. 665, 2021**

**VILLAGE OF PORT ALICE FINANCIAL PLAN 2021 - 2025
Bylaw No. 665, 2021 - Schedule 'A'**

EXPENDITURES	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
Debenture Debt Interest					
Community Centre Upgrades Matures - 2036	\$33,900	\$34,239	\$34,581	\$34,927	\$35,276
Total Debenture Debt	\$33,900	\$34,239	\$34,581	\$34,927	\$35,276
Capital Expenditures					
General	\$3,338,800	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Water Utility	\$50,000	\$40,000	\$0	\$0	\$0
Sewer Utility	\$145,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Total Capital Expenditures	\$3,533,800	\$40,000	\$0	\$0	\$0
Other Municipal Purposes					
General Government, & Fiscal Services	\$405,800	\$409,859	\$403,858	\$407,898	\$411,974
Fire & Protective Services	\$78,000	\$78,780	\$79,568	\$80,363	\$81,167
Public Works	\$338,100	\$345,441	\$348,895	\$352,384	\$355,908
Health & Environmental Services	\$212,500	\$204,620	\$206,661	\$208,723	\$210,805
Recreation Services	\$213,300	\$215,433	\$217,587	\$219,763	\$221,960
Water Utility	\$54,500	\$55,045	\$55,595	\$56,151	\$56,713
Sewer Utility	\$105,900	\$106,959	\$108,029	\$109,109	\$110,200
Total Other Municipal Purposes	\$1,408,100	\$1,416,137	\$1,420,193	\$1,434,391	\$1,448,727
Transfers to Reserves					
General Fund	\$83,000	\$83,000	\$83,000	\$83,000	\$83,000
Water Fund	\$6,500	\$6,565	\$6,631	\$6,697	\$6,764
Sewer Fund	\$36,100	\$36,461	\$36,826	\$37,194	\$37,566
Total Transfer of Funds	\$125,600	\$126,026	\$126,457	\$126,891	\$127,330
GRAND TOTAL	\$5,101,400	\$1,616,402	\$1,581,231	\$1,596,209	\$1,611,333
	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00

**VILLAGE OF PORT ALICE
BYLAW NO. 665, 2021**

**Schedule B
Statement of Objectives and Policies**

In accordance with Section 165 (3.1) of the Community Charter, the Village is required to include in the Five-Year Financial Plan, objectives and policies regarding each of the following:

1. The proportion of total revenue that comes from each of the funding sources described in Section 165 (7) of the Community Charter;
2. The distribution of property taxes among the property classes, and
3. The use of permissive tax exemptions.

Funding Sources

Table 1 shows the proportion of total revenue proposed to be raised from each funding source in 2021. Property taxes normally contribute to the greatest proportion of the Village's revenue, however, in 2021 the largest proportion is Grant Revenue which is directly related to Capital Projects. The property tax revenue source offers several advantages. For example, it is simple to administer, and it is easy for residents to understand. It offers a stable and reliable source of revenue for local government services that are simply not practical or undesirable to fund on a user-pay basis. These services include general administration, fire protection, police services, bylaw enforcement, solid waste management, recreation, and local transportation services (i.e) maintenance & upkeep of local roads and streets.

User fees and charges form the fourth largest portion of planned revenue. Many services can be measured and charged on a user-pay basis. Services that are effectively charged on a user fee basis include water and sewer services, garbage collection, building permits, and the sale of other goods and services such as recreation and cemetery services. Village Council and Staff support the value of user fees that are relative to the cost of the service to avoid the service being subsidized by taxation.

Objective

Over the next 5 years, the Village of Port Alice will review the proportion of revenue that is received from user fees and charges and increase current levels as required.

Policies

The Village will annually review all user fee levels to ensure they are adequately meeting the delivery costs of service.

Where possible, the Village will endeavor to supplement revenues from user fees and charges, rather than taxation, to lessen the burden on its limited property tax base.

Table 1: 2021 Sources of Revenue

Revenue Source	Revenue: Percentages of Total Budget	Dollar Value
Taxation	13%	642,950
Fees, Charges & Other Revenue	7%	346,650
Federal & Provincial Grants	71%	3,620,130
Appropriation from Reserves & Surplus	9%	491,670
Total	100.00%	\$ 5,101,400

**VILLAGE OF PORT ALICE
BYLAW NO. 665, 2021**

Schedule B Continued

Distribution of Property Tax Rates

Table 2 outlines the distribution of property taxes among the property classes. Historically the major industrial property class provided the largest proportion of property tax revenue. This was appropriate as this class formed the largest portion of the assessment base and was the main reason for the existence of the community. BC Assessment changed the Class of the Major Industrial property to Business in 2020 and significantly reduced the value.

Objectives

The Village Council continues to work with all levels of government and local business to attract additional economic opportunities.

The Village also recognizes the need to maintain the property tax rate for business (class 6) at a low rate.

Policies

Supplement, where possible, revenues from user fees and charges to help offset the tax burden on all property classes. This will provide some relief and reduction of dependency on the pulp mill and other rate payers.

Council will continue to maintain and encourage economic development initiatives designed to attract more retail and commercial business to invest in the community. New business investments will help offset revenue dependency on all taxpayers by providing a broader tax base.

Align the distribution of tax rates among the property classes with the social and economic goals of the community, particularly to encourage a range of employment opportunities

Regularly review and compare the Village's distribution of tax burden relative to other BC municipalities.

**Table 2: 2021 Distribution of Property Tax Rates
Based on Preliminary Values**

Property Class	Percentage of Total Property Taxation	Dollar Value
Residential (1)	79.9%	\$ 491,546
Utilities (2)	8%	\$ 51,173
Major Industrial (4)	0%	
Light Industrial (5)	5%	\$ 33,012
Business (6)	7%	\$ 44,439
Recreation (8)	0.1%	\$ 280
Total	100.00%	\$ 620,450

**VILLAGE OF PORT ALICE
BYLAW NO. 665, 2021**

Schedule B Continued

Permissive Tax Exemptions

The Village of Port Alice Council reviews all existing permissive tax exemption bylaws on an annual basis. Council bases their consideration on the following criteria:

The tax exemption must demonstrate benefit to the community and residents of Port Alice by enhancing the quality of life (economically, socially and culturally) within the community.

The goals, policies and principles of the organization receiving the exemption must not be inconsistent or in conflict with those of the Village of Port Alice.

The organization receiving the exemption must be a registered non-profit society, as the support of the municipality will not be used for commercial or private gain.

Permissive tax exemptions will be considered in conjunction with: (a) other assistance being provided by the Village; (b) the potential demands for Village services or infrastructure arising from the property; and (c) the amount of revenue that the Village will lose if the exemption is granted.

Objective

The Village of Port Alice will continue to provide permissive tax exemptions to non-profit societies that contribute social, economic and cultural benefits to the community.

Policies

Council will continue working with all the non-profit societies for the betterment of the Community.

Reviewed and adopted by Council on 10th March 2021.

Mayor

Chief Administrative Officer



Gateway to the Wild West Coast

INFORMATION ITEMS

From: GHG Regulator ENV:EX <GHGRegulator@gov.bc.ca>
Sent: Tuesday, March 30, 2021 2:07 PM
To: Undisclosed recipients:
Subject: B.C.'s draft Forest Carbon Offset Protocol Engagement

Dear interested parties,

The B.C. Ministry of Environment and Climate Change Strategy is seeking comments from Indigenous communities, technical experts, and the public on the proposed B.C. Greenhouse Gas Offset Protocol:

- **Draft B.C. Greenhouse Gas Offset Protocol: Forest Carbon**
The purpose of this protocol is to quantify greenhouse gas emission reductions and carbon dioxide removals enhancements by carbon sinks and reservoirs in forests.

Please review the draft protocol here:

<https://www.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/environment/climate-change/industry/offset-projects/consultation>

Please submit any feedback by email to GHGRegulator@gov.bc.ca with the following subject line: "FCOP Feedback". The window for feedback will open today (March 30, 2021), and will close on May 31, 2021. An informational webinar will be held on April 14, 2021 - click [here](#) to register. The Ministry of Environment and Climate Change Strategy is also available to meet with interested parties upon request.

All submissions are collected and provided to the Director for consideration prior to the establishment of the Protocol. Following a review of your feedback, government intends to release a final draft of the protocol in Fall 2021.

Thank you for your time and consideration. We look forward to receiving your comments.

For more information on developing GHG emission offset projects in B.C. please refer to: <https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/environment/climate-change/industry/offset-projects>

Sincerely,

Industrial Reporting and Control Office
BC Climate Action Secretariat
GHGRegulator@gov.bc.ca



Legislation aims at doubling federal Gas Tax fund

Mar. 31, 2021



The Government of Canada has stated its intention to top-up the federal Gas Tax Fund allocation provided to BC and other provinces and territories for 2021. Contingent upon the passing of Bill C-25, local governments would see funding allocations effectively double for the current year. The proposed funding would deliver \$2.2 billion across Canada to address short-term infrastructure priorities in local government and First Nation communities.

"UBCM has long maintained that the federal Gas Tax Fund is the best means for transferring federal funds to local infrastructure," said president Brian Frenkel. "The program allows for 100% funding, it provides local choice around project selection and timing, and the program administration is efficient. I want to extend my appreciation to the government for introducing Bill C-25 and will watch closely as it moves through the legislative process."

The Government of Canada has also committed to renaming the program the "Canada Community-Building Fund." The federal Gas Tax Fund is not reliant on federal gas tax revenues, and the name has been a source of confusion in some quarters. Bill C-25 will also provide an additional \$4 billion through the Canada Health Transfer to address immediate health care pressures and \$1 billion to support the COVID-19 vaccine rollout.

In total, it is expected that the 2021/22 allocation plus the top up will provide \$573 million for BC local governments. The top up funds are subject to the same terms and conditions as apply to the current federal Gas Tax Fund. UBCM is seeking further details on the timing of the additional payment pending legislative approval.

Follow Us On

- Twitter: @ubcm

Tanya

From: Brian Grover <grover@speekeezy.ca>
Sent: Friday, April 2, 2021 11:45 AM
To: info@portalice.ca
Cc: Manami
Subject: Port Alice Shuttle Survey

Results are in for the survey I posted about a week ago regarding a shuttle service between Port Alice and Hardy/McNeill. Altogether 20 people responded. Four respondents failed to complete the survey so those results were discarded by the system. Therefore, results are based on a sample size of 16. There are definitely others in the community who could benefit from some kind of link that do not frequent Facebook and therefore didn't have a chance to express their opinion.

Though the sample size is small, the results do indicate that there is probably enough interest to run a monthly or ad hoc shuttle service at the very least. The main challenge will be organizing interested parties. At \$40 per person, round trip, there's probably still enough profit in it to run a group of 5 passengers to Hardy and back, given that their standard fee for the run is \$150 return.

I will pass this data on to Wavin' Flags transportation company and see if they are willing to try a dry run once vaccinations have been widely dispersed and the provincial government gives the okay for this kind of travel.

If this doesn't pan out, there are other options to explore such as ride share or car share. They each have their merits and drawbacks.

To the one respondent who got all bent out of shape about subsidies and classifications: this is a user-pay scenario; no government funding of any kind is involved.

You can read my analysis as well as the raw data here:

<https://car-free.ca/downloads>

I'll keep the link live for a couple weeks or so then delete it.

--

Cheers...

Brian Grover

Speekeezy Publication Workshop

Truth or Dare for English Language Learners [Nominee: 2012 ELTon Award for Learning Resources]

Speekeezy Publication Workshop

BC Car-Free

Tanya

From: Lois Jarvis <loed@telus.net>
Sent: Tuesday, April 6, 2021 9:04 AM
To: Andy Adams; mayor@courtenay.ca; mayor@villageoftahsis.com; mayor@zeballos.com; mayorwickstrom@portmcneill.ca; village@saywardvalley.ca; grbunger@conumacable.com; info@portalice.ca; ddugas@porthardy.ca; Lyn Hawley; rarnott@comox.ca; Village of Cumberland
Subject: Fwd: North Island Hospital Labs

To the North Island Mayors and Councils

April 06th, 2021

We are representatives of Citizens for Quality Health Care (CFQHC): a grassroots North Vancouver Island health care advocacy organization. For the past 17 years we have been actively involved in many actions to improve health care on the North Island including getting the Vancouver Island Health Authority to build two new hospitals in Campbell River and the Comox Valley. We also achieved free parking for both North Island hospitals by initially making a presentation and sending it to the North Island Mayors. Some responded and we obtained more support from others including the Comox Strathcona Regional Hospital Board and the goal was eventually achieved for the benefit of all the citizens who utilize both hospitals.

We are sadly reporting that the contentious and flawed contract between Island Health and VICPCC (Vancouver Island Clinical Pathologists Consultants Corporation) authorizing this Victoria company to do clinical pathology for the North Island has again been renewed and again was done without consultation and in spite of numerous letters from the people of the North Island giving a myriad of valid reasons why it should not be renewed.

North Island citizens are demanding answers now to the following questions:

- ☐ Why has VIHA handed over total control of our public hospital labs on Vancouver Island to a **private for profit corporation** (VICPCC)?
- ☐ The Central and North Island (est. 450,000) have a greater population than the South Island (est. 440,000) so why is Victoria centralizing services there?
- ☐ The services being removed to Victoria have not made them better but worse for the patients, especially urgent and emergent who continue to be put at risk. Why?
- ☐ There is not sufficient back up for optimum pathology requirements. Why?
- ☐ VIHA has removed the positions of Regional head of Pathology and Division head of Pathology so there is no oversight here; it is all controlled from Victoria. Why?
- ☐ **How much is the significant cost to the taxpayers** for multiple couriers transporting specimens daily from the North Island to Victoria when we have very competent pathologists here to do the same work? And how about the costs of transporting deceased persons to Victoria and back as the autopsies are also now done in Victoria?
- ☐ Why has an external investigation of this contract not happened when it is obvious one is needed and has been requested by thousands of people due to obvious conflicts of interest in the initial awarding of this contract to VICPCC by a VIHA employee who was a major shareholder in VICPCC?
- ☐ Why has VIHA broken their promises so many times after promising we would retain all services and that there would be a review of the contract? How can they ever be trusted?
- ☐ **Nowhere else in Canada** is there such a contract as VIHA/Ministry of Health have imposed on the North Island Hospitals which has made them unsustainable. Why?
- ☐ Elected and appointed officials are representing us and they have a moral and ethical obligation to protect our services. Why aren't they?

□□ Why are we and others who have sent letters being completely ignored by the Health Ministry, Island Health, the Premier, MLA Michele Babchuk, Kathy MacNeil, (Pres. & CEO of VIHA), Leah Hollins (Chair VIHA Board) and many others. Is this how you value your North Island constituents/citizens?

There has been a **complete lack of transparency** from the Ministry of Health and Island Health with respect to the issues of the labs.

The Comox Valley suffered a huge loss when two highly esteemed pathologists left thanks to VIHA. We **do not want this to happen** to the also highly esteemed pathologist in Campbell River who was justifiably nominated as Health Care Hero of the Year last year.

We have done our due diligence and brought these issues of grave concern numerous times to the people who can properly deal with them but it continues to fall on deaf ears.

We are absolutely outraged and everyone should be! Enough is enough! The patients of the North Island deserve, and have a right to the high quality of health care they used to have here. It is time to all join together to ask why all the problems in our hospital labs created by VIHA have not been addressed. **What do they have to hide?**

To obtain more information please visit decafination.ca to read the excellent articles by George LeMasurier.

Sincerely,

Lois Jarvis, Richard Hagensen and Joanne Banks
On behalf of Citizens for Quality Health Care

cc: Minister Adrian Dix

c.c. Premier John Horgan

cc: Kathy MacNeil, Pres. & CEO of VIHA

cc: Leah Hollins, Chair VIHA Board

cc: Isobel MacKenzie, Seniors' Advocate for B.C.

cc: MLA Michele Babchuk

cc: MLA Ronna-Rae Leonard

Tanya

From: Seniors Advocate HLTH:EX <info@seniorsadvocatebc.ca>
Sent: Tuesday, April 6, 2021 7:27 PM
To: Office of the Senior's Advocate HLTH:EX
Subject: *****SPAM***** Office of the Seniors Advocate - April Update



Office of the Seniors Advocate Monthly Update - April 2021

COVID -19 Vaccination Update

Effective April 6th, the province has released its online booking system

<https://www2.gov.bc.ca/getvaccinated.html> in concert with a provincial phone line:

1-833-838-2323. People age 71 and older can register for a vaccination appointment, mass clinics are underway, 893,590 people had their first vaccination dose, and of this group, 87,472 had their second dose.

Find out who gets vaccinated next, how we are doing so far, new developments, what seniors need to know, and how we are doing compared to the rest of Canada.

[Click here to learn more.](#)

<https://www.seniorsadvocatebc.ca/uncategorized/nl0421-vaccine-update/>

COVID-19 Update

Rising COVID case levels, variants of concern, increased transmission and growth in more severe cases were cited as concerns by Adrian Dix, Minister of Health, when new and amended provincial health orders were introduced. Effective March 30th, the new orders are intended to be a three-week circuit breaker to bend the curve and protect people. They will be in place until April 19th.

[Click here to learn about new restrictions, COVID Cases in B.C., including long-term care, and what is happening across Canada.](#)

<https://www.seniorsadvocatebc.ca/osa-reports/nl2104-covid-19-update/>

Visitor Restrictions Reduced

After more than a year of staying apart to stay safe, visitor restrictions to long-term care have been reduced. This month, seniors will be reunited with their loved ones, as more family members are allowed to visit them in the privacy of residents' rooms.

[Click here to learn more about visits to long-term care and assisted living.](#)

<https://www.seniorsadvocatebc.ca/osa-reports/nl2104-visitor-restrictions-reduced/>

Changes to B.C. Low-income Seniors Supplement

The B.C. Low-income Seniors Supplement increased and almost doubled. Effective April 1st, the supplement now has a maximum of \$99.30 per month.

[Click here to learn more.](#)

<https://www.seniorsadvocatebc.ca/osa-reports/nl2104-the-bc-seniors-supplement-gets-increased/>

BC Rebate for Accessible Home Adaptations

Adapting homes in small ways can help seniors stay safe and independent. Simple upgrades such as installing handrails and bathtub grab bars can help prevent falls and related injuries. The BC Rebate for Accessible Home Adaptations program (formerly called the Home Adaptations for Independence (HAFI) program) is a grant program for low-income and moderate-income seniors. Successful applicants can get up to \$17,500 in rebates towards adaptations that directly address an individual's permanent disability or loss of ability and improve their ability to perform the basic activities of daily living. Home adaptations include exterior and interior ramps and door widening to accommodate a wheelchair, and bathroom modifications, such as grab bars, shower seats and handheld showerheads.

[Click here to learn more.](#)

<http://bit.ly/3cRAWGW>

Tax Tip #1 File by April 30, 2021

Filing your taxes by April 30, 2021, may not seem like much of a tax tip, but it can save you money, so can applying for tax credits, including the disability tax credit, B.C. Home Renovation Tax Credit for Seniors and the Persons with Disabilities tax credit. Another way you may be able to save money on taxes is by splitting pension income between spouses or common-law partners.

[Click here to learn more about ways you may be able to reduce your taxes.](#)

<https://www.seniorsadvocatebc.ca/uncategorized/nl202104-tax-tips/>

Changes to B.C. homeowner grant application process

The B.C. homeowner grant, which must be applied for each year, helps homeowners reduce the amount of property taxes they pay for their principal residence. Starting in 2021, residents in municipalities can no longer apply for the homeowner grant through their municipal office. Now, everyone must apply directly to the province using a new online system, or by calling 1-888-355-2700 for assistance. Applicants will need their social insurance number to verify their eligibility.

[Click here to learn more.](#)

<https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/taxes/property-taxes/annual-property-tax/homeowner-grant/senior>

Defer Your Property Taxes

The Property Tax Deferment Program is a low-interest loan program that helps B.C. seniors pay annual property taxes on their principal residence. Applications will be accepted in May 2021.

[Click here to learn more about the Property Tax Deferment Program.](#)

<https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/taxes/property-taxes/annual-property-tax/defer-taxes>

Recent Announcements From the B.C. Government Impacting Seniors

Click on the highlighted links below to learn more about each news item.

March 31, 2021

New urgent and primary care centre opens in Penticton

<https://news.gov.bc.ca/releases/2021HLTH0060-000592>

March 31, 2021

Collaboration key to community co-operative's success

<https://news.gov.bc.ca/releases/2021SDPR0029-000593>

March 29, 2021

Canada, B.C. invest in public transit infrastructure in Greater Victoria

<https://news.gov.bc.ca/releases/2021TRAN0048-000587>

March 29, 2021

BC Bus North service continues with federal, provincial support

<https://news.gov.bc.ca/releases/2021TRAN0045-000576>

March 26, 2021

Major connectivity investments for coastal communities

<https://news.gov.bc.ca/releases/2021CITZ0022-000562>

March 25, 2021

Changes to long-term care visitation on the way

<https://news.gov.bc.ca/releases/2021HLTH0022-000551>

March 25, 2021

Province hikes fines to further enforce COVID-19 public safety

<https://news.gov.bc.ca/releases/2021PSSG0031-000540>

March 25, 2021

First intake of First Nations Well Being Fund open

<https://news.gov.bc.ca/releases/2021SDPR0026-000544>

March 24, 2021

Pharmacists strengthen team-based primary care team

<https://news.gov.bc.ca/releases/2021HLTH0057-000537>

March 23, 2021

People deemed clinically extremely vulnerable prioritized for COVID-19 vaccine

<https://news.gov.bc.ca/releases/2021HLTH0022-000532>

March 19, 2021

Next step taken for new Stuart Lake Hospital

<https://news.gov.bc.ca/releases/2021HLTH0054-000512>

March 19, 2021

B.C. continues to advance surgical renewal achievement

<https://news.gov.bc.ca/releases/2021HLTH0055-000513>

March 18, 2021

Seniors, people with disabilities to benefit from improved home adaptation program

<https://news.gov.bc.ca/releases/2021AG0033-000497>

March 17, 2021

Community response networks reach vulnerable adults

<https://news.gov.bc.ca/releases/2021SDPR0021-000495>

March 16, 2021

Permanent increase to assistance rates helps people in need

<https://news.gov.bc.ca/releases/2021SDPR0024-000483>

March 12, 2021

New Richmond UPCC to provide health care closer to home

<https://news.gov.bc.ca/releases/2021PREM0020-000459>

March 9, 2021

Urgent and primary care centre coming soon to Penticton

<https://news.gov.bc.ca/releases/2021HLTH0020-000427>

March 9, 2021

Province keeps B.C. moving: funding inter-city bus service, regional airports

<https://news.gov.bc.ca/releases/2021PREM0019-000422>

March 8, 2021

Construction begins for new St. Paul's Hospital

<https://thenewstpauls.ca/construction-begins-for-new-st-pauls-hospital/>

National News

Government of Canada funds more than 3,000 projects across Canada to support seniors

Click here to learn more.

<https://www.canada.ca/en/employment-social-development/news/2021/03/government-of-canada-funds-more-than-3000-projects-across-canada-to-support-seniors.html>

Recent Research

Rising to the Challenge: How BC's Community-Based Seniors' Service Agencies Stepped Up During COVID-19

Commissioned by the United Way's Healthy Aging Office in partnership with the Community Based Seniors Services Leadership Council, the study was undertaken by Dialogues in Action who gathered data to measure the effectiveness and responsiveness of the province-wide, community-led response to support seniors during the COVID-19 pandemic. The report highlights how a network of community agencies across the province pulled together to keep older adults safe at home.

Click here to read the study.

<https://www.uwlm.ca/wp-content/uploads/2021/03/Rising-to-the-Challenge-Full-Report.pdf>

B.C. study questions time between COVID-19 vaccination doses for older adults -

Weak humoral immune reactivity among residents of long-term care facilities following one dose of the BNT162b2 mRNA COVID-19 vaccine

A B.C. study funded by the COVID-19 Immunity Task Force, raises questions about delaying second vaccine doses in older adults. The study found a weaker immune response, to the first dose of COVID-19 vaccines, in long-term care residents than younger adults.

Click here to read the article.

<https://www.medrxiv.org/content/10.1101/2021.03.17.21253773v1>

COVID myth spreaders not who you might think, new OMA research shows

Almost six per cent of Ontarians online are spreading misinformation about the COVID-19 pandemic, and the vast majority of them are older men and women, according to exclusive new research conducted on behalf of the Ontario Medical Association. Ontarians ages 55-64 are the most engaged online across all COVID hoax topics, with men (52 per cent) and women (48 per cent) almost equally involved. While men who engage in spreading misinformation online tend to talk about government using COVID to further its own interests, women who do so are focused on variants and government as the source of COVID-19 and why the vaccine is to be feared. Both men and women ages 55-64 believe in the misinformation they are sharing and are not on social media to dispel the myths.

Click here to read the news release and research summary

<https://www.oma.org/uploadedfiles/oma/media/public/covid-myths-asi-research-summary-for-oma.pdf>

The Impact of COVID-19 on Long-Term Care in Canada Focus on the First 6 Months

The Canadian Institute for Health Information (CIHI) released a report about how COVID-19 has affected long-term care in Canada. The publication has detailed information about the first 6 months of the pandemic, including how homes, residents and staff were affected, and how resident care changed. The report also provides early comparisons of COVID-19 cases and deaths in Wave 1 and Wave 2 across the country.

Click here to read the report.

<https://www.cihi.ca/sites/default/files/document/impact-covid-19-long-term-care-canada-first-6-months-report-en.pdf>

Predictors of infection, symptoms development, and mortality in people with SARS-CoV-2 living in retirement nursing homes

Since the start of the pandemic, millions of people have been infected, with thousands of deaths. Many variables worldwide have been identified in retirement nursing homes, with a high number of deaths. This study aims were to evaluate the spread of SARS-CoV-2 in the retirement nursing homes, the predictors to develop symptoms, and death.

Click here to read article.

<https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/33724987/>

Nursing Home Characteristics Associated With Resident COVID-19 Morbidity in Communities With High Infection Rates

This cross-sectional study uses data from the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services Nursing Home COVID-19 Public File to assess the characteristics associated with resident morbidity among 3008 nursing homes in US communities with the highest COVID-19 infection prevalence.

Click here to read article:

<https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/33724388/>

Second versus first wave of COVID-19 deaths: Shifts in age distribution and in nursing home fatalities

This study examined whether the age distribution of COVID-19 deaths and the share of deaths in nursing homes changed in the second versus the first pandemic wave.

Click here to read the article.

<https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/33581086/>

Improving the Fate of Nursing Homes During the COVID-19 Pandemic: The Need for Policy

Click here to read article:

<https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/33507802/>

Developing a clinical screening tool for identifying COVID-19 infection in older people dwelling in residential aged care services

This study was to develop and conduct preliminary feasibility testing of a clinical screening instrument for early identification of COVID-19 infection in older people residing in residential aged care services (RACS).

Click here to read study:

<https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/33185979/>

Nursing Home Social Workers Perceptions of Preparedness and Coping for COVID-19

Social work has a long history of responding to the needs of vulnerable populations during times of crisis and disaster. Social workers are working at the front lines responding to the current COVID-19 pandemic in a variety of health care practice settings, including nursing homes; however, it is unclear how social workers perceive their preparedness during this time.

Click here to read article:

<https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/32861215/>

Thrust Into the Spotlight: COVID-19 Focuses Media Attention on Nursing Homes

This study sheds light on the agenda-setting role of the media during the COVID-19 crisis by examining trends in nursing home (NH) coverage in 4 leading national newspapers-The New York Times, Washington Post, USA Today, and Los Angeles Times.

Click here to read study:

<https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/32696957/>

Recent advances in understanding and treatment of Parkinson's disease.

Parkinson's disease is increasingly recognized to be a multifactorial disease with a strong genetic component. The death of vulnerable neuronal populations appears to drive the neurodegeneration underlying Parkinson's disease. The improved understanding of underlying mechanisms has led to the development of novel therapeutic approaches in Parkinson's disease. Until these treatments are fully developed and approved, clinicians must rely on therapies designed to improve quality of life of patients by treating various motor and non-motor symptoms of the disease.

Click here to read the article.

<https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC7886054/pdf/facrev-09-06.pdf>

Impact of Poor Oral Health on Community-Dwelling Seniors: A Scoping Review.

This review presents health-related impacts of poor oral health among community-dwelling seniors. Improving access to oral healthcare services for seniors can help not only reduce the burden of oral diseases in this population group but also address the morbidity and mortality associated with other general health diseases and conditions caused due to poor oral health. Findings from this study can help identify shortcomings in existing oral healthcare programs for seniors and develop future programs and services to improve access and utilization of oral care services by seniors.

[Click here to read the article:](#)

https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC7841244/pdf/10.1177_1178632921989734.pdf

Volunteer Impact on Health-Related Outcomes for Seniors: a Systematic Review And Meta-Analysis

This systematic review and meta-analysis evaluates the effects of unpaid volunteer interventions on health-related outcomes for seniors. Volunteers may increase physical activity levels and subjective ratings of physical function for seniors without apparent harm. These findings support the WHO call to action on evidence-based policies to align health systems in support of older adults.

[Click here to read the article.](#)

<https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC7904324/pdf/cgj-24-44.pdf>

Virtual care for patients with Alzheimer's disease and related dementias during the COVID-19 era and beyond

Virtual care has the potential to improve access to health care for people with Alzheimer disease and related dementias, especially in the context of the coronavirus disease 19 (COVID-19) pandemic. Evidence regarding direct-to-home virtual care for people with Alzheimer disease and related dementias is lacking; this model is associated with unique challenges that must be considered as virtual care becomes a more common approach to health care delivery.

[Click here to read the article.](#)

<https://www.cmaj.ca/content/cmaj/193/11/E371.full.pdf>

Outreach by the OSA

The Seniors Advocate continues to meet with seniors across the province by attending events and delivering presentations virtually.

Click here to see Events <https://www.seniorsadvocatebc.ca/all-osa-events/>

Follow Us

Click here to follow us on Twitter <https://bit.ly/301Sie6>

Click here to follow us on Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/SeniorsAdvocateBC/>

Make Us a Safe Sender

Please add info@seniorsadvocatebc.ca to your address book or safe sender list so our emails get to your inbox.

Subscribe and Unsubscribe

You can subscribe or unsubscribe to the Office of the Seniors Advocate Updates by emailing your request to: info@seniorsadvocatebc.ca

MEDIA RELEASE

April 8, 2021
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
MR21-024

NIC Student Hope Campaign needs help to reach goal

The NIC Foundation needs the public's help to reach its \$50,000 goal for the COVID-19 Student Hope Campaign.

The campaign, which was started to help students reduce the financial barriers caused by the pandemic and give them hope for a brighter future, is only \$11,000 away from the finish line.

"We want to support 50 students with a \$1,000 bursary each to help pay for college so they can reach their educational, career and life goals," said Randall Heidt, Executive Director of the NIC Foundation. "COVID-19 has been difficult for everyone, but it has been especially challenging for some students who were unable to work or save for their education because of the pandemic."

Fortunately, the North Island Students' Union (NISU) has donated a record \$30,000 to the campaign to support students during this important time.



"Supporting learners, while they feel isolated in their home study spaces means more now than ever. Learners feel the support of their communities and knowing someone else believes in their goals is like wind in their sails," said Carissa Wilson, NISU Organiser - College Relations.

"Many students are balancing under employment, seeing reduced earnings due to COVID-19, and services like Food Banks are seeing increased use. These awards help students to focus on their studies and not their bare cupboards."

Every year, individuals, families, and organizations help about 500 local students, but up to 200 eligible students in need do not receive assistance due to lack of available funds. That number is rising because of COVID-19.

"We are so grateful for NISU's support and the support of our donors who have helped us raise about \$39,000," said Heidt. "We are hopeful that community members will be inspired by students supporting students and help us raise the final \$11,000. 100% of every donation will directly support a student in need."

Last year's undersupported applicants included single parents, low-income residents, and disadvantaged youth. With student applications already being accepted online until April 27 at <https://foundation.nic.bc.ca/students/>, the deadline to receive additional funding into this year's Awards program is fast approaching.

"In addition to the tragic loss of lives and the immediate financial strain the pandemic has caused, there is also a potential long-term impact to the economy," Heidt said. "Our communities cannot afford a gap in an educated and skilled workforce that COVID-19 threatens to create."

To watch inspiring videos from students, or to donate, visit <https://foundation.nic.bc.ca/what-can-i-do/covid-19-student-hope-campaign>.

Media Contact

Elizabeth Young
Media Liaison, North Island College
Phone: 250-334-5233
elizabeth.young@nic.bc.ca

Date: April 8, 2021
To: CFOs & Communication Managers
From: Union of BC Municipalities
RE: Federal Gas Tax Fund: 2021 Update

The federal Gas Tax Fund (FGTF) is now in its 17th year of delivering funding to local government infrastructure and capacity building projects in British Columbia. During that time, the fund has transferred over \$3.5 billion to B.C.'s communities.

I am writing to you to provide an annual update on aspects of the overall compliance framework for local governments in B.C. Like all federal funding programs, the FGTF is subject to evaluation by the Government of Canada to ensure that the program is delivering on its intended outcomes and that recipients are fulfilling their obligations. A high level of compliance is critical for ensuring that this program is retained in its current form and level of funding.

We are asking for your continued support in increasing the current level of compliance in the following areas:

2021 Top-up and Proposed Name Change

In March, the Government of Canada announced its intention to top-up the federal Gas Tax Fund allocation provided to B.C. and other provinces and territories for 2021. Contingent upon the passing of Bill C-25, local governments would see funding allocations effectively double for the current year.

The Government of Canada has also committed to renaming the program the "Canada Community-Building Fund", which recognizes that the fund is no longer associated with gas tax revenues.

UBCM will be updating local government's 2021 Community Works Fund allocations pending the adoption of Bill C-25.

Communications

Each local government that receives federal Gas Tax Funds has signed a funding agreement that includes a Communications Protocol ("Schedule E"). The basic aim of the communications protocol is to ensure that B.C. residents are made aware of the contributions provided by the Government of Canada through the program. There are several ways in which this can be achieved: installation of temporary construction signage; formal communications (such as news releases and media events); and social media. I am writing to you to identify minimal goals in each of these areas.

- Guidelines for signage installation along with templates are available on Infrastructure Canada's [website](#). Any project utilizing over \$100,000 from the FGTF should be accompanied with project signage. UBCM gathers data on signage installation in our annual reporting process for the federal government. *Although we did see an increase in signage installation in the last reporting year, we note that many local governments are not reporting signage for projects meeting the threshold.*
- Communities receiving annual FGTF allocations greater than \$400,000 and those receiving grants through the Strategic Priorities Fund should undertake at least one formal communication highlighting the use of funds in each year.
- Local governments are required to provide advance notice to Canada, B.C. and UBCM twenty-one days in advance of any formal communications. This requirement can be fulfilled by contacting UBCM. Social media provides an efficient way to update local residents on projects and to acknowledge federal contributions. Please tag UBCM (@GasTaxFundBC) on any posts to your community's Facebook page that recognize projects funded through the FGTF. Please ask staff responsible for social media in your local government to "like" our page. Our aim is to create a living journal of how the FGTF is renewing infrastructure in B.C.'s communities.

Project Eligibility

We continue to provide advice to local government staff on what are considered eligible projects for the use of Community Works Funds.

For projects to be eligible, the following questions should be considered:

1. Is the recipient of funding for the project an "Ultimate Recipient" by definition?
2. Will the project result in a tangible capital asset in B.C. that is primarily for public use or public benefit?
3. Does the project fall under one of the eligible investment categories?

UBCM developed [guidelines for determining project eligibility](#) for more information and examples of eligible and ineligible projects.

The following projects have been deemed an ineligible use of Community Works Funds:

- Fire halls, fire trucks, emergency operations centres
- City halls, public works buildings and other administrative buildings
- Child care centres
- Social housing
- Seniors care facilities and housing
- Health care related infrastructure
- Small equipment purchases as stand-alone projects
- Feasibility studies and detailed design (without additional capital spending)

Unspent Funds

The 10-year Gas Tax Fund is currently set to expire in March, 2024. At this time, there is a considerable amount of unspent funds in local government Gas Tax Fund accounts. In the coming months, UBCM will be in contact with local governments holding significant amount of Community Works Funds to confirm that funds will be utilized for local government capital projects within the current timeframe of the program. We expect that there will be requirements for spending Community Works Funds within a reasonable timeframe or funds may be re-allocated for future programming.

If you have any questions, please contact Holly Yee, Program Administrator, Gas Tax Program Services, by telephone at 250-356-5134 or via email at gastax@ubcm.ca. For signage and communications questions, please contact Paul Taylor, Director of Communications at ptaylor@ubcm.ca.

Regards,



Brant Felker

Manager, Gas Tax Program Services, UBCM

