

VILLAGE OF PORT ALICE
COUNCIL MEETING AGENDA

TO BE HELD WEDNESDAY JANUARY 22, 2025, at 6:00 pm
AT COUNCIL CHAMBERS, VILLAGE OFFICE



(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) ADOPTION OF AGENDA:

THAT the Agenda for the Meeting of the Village of Port Alice for January 22, 2025, be approved; AND THAT all delegations, reports, correspondence, and other information set to the agenda be received.

(3) DELEGATIONS:

(4) MINUTES:

Pg 3-4 a.) *THAT the Minutes from the Regular Meeting Minutes of January 8, 2025, be approved.*

(5) COMMUNICATIONS:

(6) REPORTS:

Pg 5 a.) Economic Development Update
January 15, 2025, Report from Ryan Nicholson, Ec Dev Officer

Pg 7 b.) Fire Chief's Report for December 2025
January 8, 2025, Report from Jerry Rose, Fire Chief

Pg 9 c.) CEPF Emergency Support Services Grant
January 17, 2025, Report from Bonnie Danyk, CAO/CFO

(7) BYLAWS:

(8) QUESTION PERIOD:

(9) RESOLUTION TO PROCEED TO CLOSED MEETING

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

Section 90 1 (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:

(10) ADJOURNMENT:

THAT the meeting of the Village of Port Alice Council held January 22, 2025, be adjourned

VILLAGE OF PORT ALICE COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 8, 2025
AT COUNCIL CHAMBERS, VILLAGE OFFICE



Present

Mayor Kevin Cameron
Councillor Russell Murray - Electronic
Councillor Sean Watson
Councillor Holly Aldis
Councillor David Stewart

Absent

Staff

Bonnie Danyk, CAO/CFO
Tanya Spafford, Admin Assistant

Call to order 6:00pm

01/25
Adoption of
Agenda

ADOPTION OF AGENDA:

Moved, Seconded and CARRIED

THAT the Agenda for the Meeting of the Village of Port Alice for January 8, 2025, be approved; AND THAT all delegations, reports, correspondence, and other information set to the agenda be received.

DELEGATION:

Port Alice Gas

August 1, 2024, Delegation from David Dick, Port Alice Gas

Port Alice Gas began in 1969, number of owners until bought by David Dick in 1998. Regulated by the BC Utilities Commission, since 2010 they are regulated light. This involves less paperwork annual, making operations simpler.
Pricing basis, average in US is \$1.37 Can, PA Gas is \$1.01 and less for commercial. Prices change monthly based on the wholesale price of propane.

Annual Review is done by 5 Star Services. Report includes needed maintenance and planning for the next year. There is also a local gasfitter to deal with issues, and emergency repairs.

There has been a decline in volume, some due to Mill Closure, heat pumps and weather changes. Average temperatures for Port Alice have risen, using less propane for heating. Tanks are kept at a higher level through the winter to be prepared for any emergency issues that would keep supply from making it to town.

Request for Port Alice Gas to meet with the Fire Department for some information on the system as was done several years ago.

02/25
Minutes of
December 10,
2024

MINUTES:

Moved, Seconded and CARRIED

THAT the Minutes from the Council Meeting of December 10, 2024, be approved.

COMMUNICATIONS:

BC Salmon Farmers Concerned About Fiscal Update: Reckless Policy Decisions Compound an Expected Dire Fiscal Forecast

December 16, 2024, Letter from Michelle Franze, Manager of Communications, Partnerships and Community

REPORTS:

Accounts Payable Listing for November 2024

January 3, 2025, Report from Bonnie Danyk, CAO/CFO

Summary of Revenue & Expenses for November 2024

January 3, 2025, Report from Bonnie Danyk, CAO/CFO

BYLAWS:

Rates & Fees 2025

03/24 Bylaw
695, Rates and
Fees

Moved, Seconded and CARRIED

THAT Rates and Fees for 2025 Bylaw 695 be given fourth reading and adoption.

QUESTION PERIOD:

04/25
Adjournment

ADJOURNMENT: 6:28pm

Moved, Seconded and CARRIED

THAT the Regular meeting of the Village of Port Alice held January 8, 2025, be adjourned at 6:28pm.

I hereby certify the preceding to be a true and correct account of the Regular meeting of the Village of Port Alice Council held January 8, 2025.

Mayor

Chief Administrative Officer



VILLAGE OF PORT ALICE REPORT TO COUNCIL

To: Mayor & Council
From: Ryan Nicholson, Economic Development Officer
Date: January 15, 2025
Subject: Economic Development Update

Here is a quick update on several ongoing projects:

Rumble Beach Marina:

- Construction of the new floating breakwater has begun in Port McNeill by Tuff Marine Products.
- Sections of the breakwater are expected to start arriving late February or March.
- Installation of breakwater sections is expected to begin early spring.
- Parking expansion and clean-up has begun in the overflow lot across Marine Dr.
- Removal of danger trees and undergrowth for parking expansion near Taylor Way to begin soon.
- Notice of construction work and improvements at the marina has been posted around the village and the marina.

Link River Campground:

- Bookings for the 2025 season open on February 1, 2025.
- Waiting on dryer weather for topsoil delivery to complete the new group site.
- Link River Facebook page has been created to help showcase the campground.
- Pacificus is still working on tenure for the waterfront to allow the necessary repairs to the dock and swimming area.
- Updated brochures and business directories have been stocked at our marina, welcome sign, and Marble River.
- New survey and welcome package created.

Arena Feasibility Study:

- Large number of documents and general information has been sent to the consultants.
- First site visit is being scheduled.
- Additional qualified professionals (engineers) are being considered for the first site visit.

General:

- Continuing conversations and research with several organizations and business owners about the creation of a business association and North Island Chamber of Commerce.
- Promoting the Digital Business Enhancement Program to local businesses.
- Should there be discussion about MOWI's ideas for water infrastructure added to a Public Works agenda?
- Is there anything we can do to support MOWI through the transition period?

Respectfully submitted,

Ryan Nicholson
Economic Development Officer

VILLAGE OF PORT ALICE

Port Alice Volunteer Fire Department Fire Chief's Monthly Report For the month December 2024

Active Members	14	Rescue Calls	0
On Leave	1	Fire Calls	0
New/Recruits **	1	Lift Assist Calls	0
Total	16	Ambulance Driver Assist Calls	0
Mutual Aid Calls	0	Public Relation Events	0
Number Of False Alarms	0	Training Events	0

Practices / Events:

Date	Attendance	Purpose
Dec 3		Practice: Pumper Practice
Dec 10		Practice: Truck Practice
Dec 17		Practice: Month End Checks
Dec 24		Practice: No Practice
Dec 31		Practice: No Practice
<u>PAVFD Updates</u>		
Jan 2024		Received Training on New to us SCBA's

Fire Chief: _____

Administrator: _____





VILLAGE OF PORT ALICE REPORT TO COUNCIL

To: Mayor and Council
From: CAO / CFO
Date: January 17, 2025
Subject: CEPF Emergency Support Services Grant

The Community Emergency Preparedness Fund has three funding streams which are intended to help local governments and First Nations respond to emergencies. The funding is provided by the Province of BC and administered by UBCM.

The Emergency Support Service Funding Stream is accepting applications with a deadline of January 31, 2025.

RECOMMENDATION: THAT the Village of Port Alice apply to the CEPF – ESS Stream for \$ 40,000 to purchase and install a propane generator for the Community Center and FURTHER THAT grant management and any overages be provided by the Village of Port Alice

Bonnie Danyk
CAO / CFO



INFORMATION ITEMS



January 7, 2025

RE: Protecting Taxpayers from Overspending on Local Government Construction

Dear Mayor and Council:

The Independent Contractors and Businesses Association (ICBA) is Canada's largest construction association and a leading industry organization in British Columbia, with more than 4,500 member and client companies. ICBA's B.C. corporate members account for approximately 85% of the province's construction sector – representing more than 190,000 jobs. Construction itself is one of the biggest B.C. industries, directly generating almost 8% of GDP. ICBA also owns and manages a rapidly growing employee health and dental benefits business which currently supports more than 300,000 Canadians.

Apart from advocating for the interests of construction companies and contractors, ICBA is a principled voice for free enterprise and the benefits of a competitive, market-based economy. Unlike many other business associations, ICBA receives no funding from governments at any level. We believe that competition and choice for consumers and taxpayers is by far the best way to deliver value-for-money and create the conditions for a thriving economy.

ICBA is writing to you and other B.C. local government bodies to share our views on the topic of public sector procurement. At a time when large numbers of British Columbians are facing affordability challenges, many small and mid-sized businesses are struggling to survive, and the B.C. government is running record budget deficits, we believe it is **important for municipal leaders to commit to open, fair and transparent procurement practices** across all domains of local and regional government activity. This includes the regular purchase of goods and services to operate local government as well as procurement that is tied to capital spending and the development and maintenance of infrastructure assets.

When municipalities pay for goods, services and capital projects, they do so on behalf of all taxpayers in the community. **Municipal policymakers have an obligation to adopt prudent fiscal policies and to ensure the best possible value-for-money when expending taxpayer dollars. Competitive procurement policies are a vital part of delivering on this fundamental obligation.**

Across Canada, local government expenses amounted to \$220 billion in 2022, with the main components of expenditures consisting of purchases of goods and services, employee compensation, subsidies and grants, interest payments on debt, and the depreciation of fixed capital (Statistics Canada, Table 10-10-0015-01). In the same year, total local government revenues were \$225 billion, of which the largest shares were grants/payments from other levels of government and revenues derived from taxes on property.

In the past few years, the B.C. government has undertaken a significant fraction of its capital projects under the "Community Benefits Agreement" (CBA) framework adopted in 2018. Under this policy, a provincial Crown Corporation (British Columbia Infrastructure Benefits Inc. – BCIB) contracts for the employees required to build certain public sector infrastructure and other capital projects. It does so through an agreement with a group of 19 trade unions that are part of the broader Building Trades Union (BTU) alliance. All employees working on CBA projects must be (or become) members of an affiliated BTU.

This very unusual arrangement dilutes the important relationship that exists between an employer and its employees across the rest of the B.C. private sector.

The province's CBA policy has the effect of restricting bidding on projects covered by the scheme. This is especially problematic given that about 85% of the people working in the B.C. construction industry are not BTU members nor employed by contractors which are covered by BTU collective agreements. **Fewer bidders means less pressure to ensure competitive costs and excellence in project delivery.** Many ICBA members will not bid on public sector projects covered CBAs because of the extra bureaucracy and administrative complexity involved and also because they do not wish to give up control and management oversight of their own workforce – as is the normal practice in Canadian business.

As demonstrated by academic research, **restricted bidding translates into higher costs for taxpayers** and the users of infrastructure services established via CBA-type arrangements.¹ Cost over-runs and unexpected delays are a common theme with CBA projects.² The net result is hundreds of millions of dollars of additional costs imposed on the B.C. taxpayers and delays in project delivery.

It is sometimes argued that restrictive tendering policies like CBAs are necessary to support local hires, apprenticeships, and pensions. In a labour shortage like B.C. construction is facing, our companies do everything they can to hire and keep local workers. ICBA is the single largest sponsor of trades apprentices in British Columbia, and open shop contractors train 82% of all apprentices in the province. When it comes to financial security, ICBA contractors and their employees utilize RRSPs, bonus programs, and profit-sharing initiatives, providing flexible and effective solutions tailored to their workforce, rather than being restricted to union-controlled pension plans.

For local governments, the lesson from B.C.'s failed experiment with CBAs is clear. **Municipal and regional government projects should be developed and managed using open, competitive procurement.** Restrictive tendering should be avoided in all areas of local government activity – capital projects, but also the day-to-day procurement of goods and services. Municipalities should not discriminate against B.C. businesses and their employees based on factors such as particular union affiliations.

If you have any questions or wish to engage ICBA in a conversation on this, or any, construction issue, please feel free to contact me directly at chris@icba.ca.

Sincerely,
INDEPENDENT CONTRACTORS AND BUSINESSES ASSOCIATION



Chris Gardner
President and CEO, ICBA

¹ Brian Dijkema and Morley Gunderson, "Restrictive Tendering: Protection for Whom?" January 2017, CARDUS.

² Renze Nauta, "Benefits for Whom? Assessing British Columbia's Community Benefits Agreements," CARDUS September 2024.

MEDIA RELEASE

Jan. 9, 2025
 FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
 MR25-001

Reconciliation need not be scary, says NIC series speaker

The next speaker for NIC’s Indigenous Speaker Series was one of the early voices to speak up about residential schools. Wickee Cussee, also known as Randy Fred, will be talking at North Island College on Jan. 23 from 6–8 p.m. at the Q̓a̓ pix ʔidaʔas Gathering Place at the Campbell River campus, 1685 South Dogwood St.

“There is a great hunger for learning about reconciliation,” Fred said. “I want to share my knowledge to help clarify how we can proceed together to continue working on advancing reconciliation.”

NIC’s Office of Indigenous Education and Office of Global Engagement have organized the Indigenous Speaker Series to bring together NIC staff, faculty, students and broader communities.

Fred is a Tseshaht First Nation Elder, writer and publisher. He talked about his experiences with Celia Haig-Brown for the book *Resistance and Renewal*, which, published in 1988, was one of the first books to discuss residential schools in Canada.

In the decades since, he has recounted his experiences many times about surviving nine years at Alberni Indian Residential School.

For the upcoming talk, he will share his thoughts on reconciliation based on his own real-world experiences and perspectives. He will also touch on the importance of Indigenization and decolonization as crucial aspects in the reconciliation journey.

“Reconciliation can be confusing, but I want to attempt to simplify it using my personal truth,” he said. “Reconciliation need not be scary, and I will illustrate this with personal experiences. I will share stories about Indigenous ways of knowing and how this knowledge can benefit us all.”

Fred worked as an accountant but changed paths following the loss of his eyesight. He started writing, broadcasting and founded Theytus Books, the first Indigenous owned and operated publishing company in the country.

He also started the One in Spirit Healing Arts Society, a non-profit organization enabling transformative healing arts through connection with community, nature and First Nations wisdom.

Fred will be the second speaker for NIC’s Indigenous Speaker Series. Chief Janice George, Squamish Nation hereditary chief, gave the first talk in November. The event is free, though people should [reserve online](#) to save a seat.



Wickee Cussee, also known as Randy Fred, has been talking about his experiences at the Alberni Indian Residential School for decades now. He will be the next speaker in NIC’s Indigenous Speaker Series.

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