

Nimpkish Woodlands Advisory Committee Meeting
Minutes September 18, 2014
Black Bear Resort Port McNeill, BC
7 p.m. – 9 p.m.

Attendance: Kelly McMahon, Jack Miller, Pat English, Jon Lok, Paul Barolet, Stu Ellis, Trevor Egely, Gaby Wickstrom, Bill Nelson,

Regrets: Steve Lacasse, Buzz Walker, Ray Lutz, Paul Barolet, Annemarie Koch, Jessie Moore,

Presenter: Pat English, Manager, Economic Development-Regional District of Mount Waddington

Facilitator: Kelly McMahon

Notes: Kelly McMahon

1. Introduction and Safety Procedures:

Kelly reviewed the safety procedures to follow in the event of a fire or medical emergency.

Kelly reviewed the objectives of the meeting, namely:

- To review the previous meeting minutes and selected action items;
- To hear a presentation on Economic Development Policies and the Forest Sector Study by Pat English;
- To hear an operational overview from Trevor Egely and;
- To confirm the date and content of the next meeting.

2. Review of Minutes and Action Items:

Kelly reviewed the minutes and action items from the June 5th meeting. She reminded NWAC members that she would be assuming they had read the minutes prior to the meeting. There were no additions or changes to the minutes.

Kelly reviewed the action items from previous meetings.

Action Item 1: to follow up and see the feasibility of combining a number of targets for Indicator 5.1.1 that better reflect the economic and community benefits generated specifically in this DFA. It was agreed that Kelly should work with Jack and Bill to develop an additional target for Indicator 5.1.1 that shows Englewood's productivity in relation to other divisions in WFP, by the November 27th, 2014 meeting

Responsibility: Kelly/Jack

Due Date: November 27, 2014

Action Item 2: Determine the feasibility of a cross division PAG meeting- in Port McNeill-to be revisited in 2014-just had an all PAG meeting in Powell River September 26-27th, 2012

Responsibility- Kelly and Trevor

Due Date- ongoing 2014

Action Item 3: Look at ways and means of generating greater awareness of the economic and environmental benefits of preventing loss of petroleum products such as oil.

Responsibility: Trevor/Kelly/Jack

Due Date: Ongoing. Annemarie noted this item was ongoing. Jack noted that there were many ways to reduce the loss of petroleum products. Trevor agreed that WFP was looking at ways to reduce loss of products such as hydraulic oil. Kelly suggested working with Jack on this initiative.

Action Item 4: Solicit new members, and print a press release, highlighting the efforts of NWAC in the North Island Gazette.

Responsibility: Kelly

Due Date: after Municipal election material had circulated through the paper (upon Gaby's advice)

Action Item 5: Refine Indicator 5.2.2 to include a greater scope of training opportunities available in the DFA, including training provided through contractors. Inclusion of the training completed by Bill 13 contractors. Information can come from the safety council audit at Randy's suggestion.

Responsibility: Kelly McMahon

Due Date: March 31st, 2015

Action Item 6: Provide a presentation WFP's 20 year plan.

Responsibility: Kelly and Trevor

Due Date: Sometime in 2015

Economic Development Policies and the Forest Sector Study: Pat English-Manager, Economic Development-Regional District of Mount Waddington

Forest Sector Background:

Presentation notes are taken from Power Point presentation provided by Pat English-

It is to be noted that the forest sector study is not yet final and the Economic Development Policies have not been endorsed by the Board of Directors. It is in a draft form. It is thought to be finalized by the end of October, 2014.

The Mount Waddington Regional District Forest Sector study started in May and originated from the need for a look at Strategic Planning within the Mount Waddington Regional District. The steering committee divided into five focus groups, with one of them being forestry. It is to be noted that forestry is the foundation of the region's

culture, economy and environment. It accounts for 46% of employment through direct, indirect and induced employment within the region.

Forestry is subject to macro-economic forces including industry productivity trends and climate change impacts. The best case is for the Annual Allowable cut to maintain its current levels for the next 5-10 years. However a decline over time is more likely the scenario. The forest sector does include wildlife and recreational values. The Regional District (RD) is working actively with stakeholders to secure local economic and social benefits while promoting environmental stewardship.

What can we do for a healthy economy balancing recreational values, adventure, and tourism. The interface between humans-recreation and harvesting is now occurring. How can we maximize the whole pie without jeopardizing the pieces? Most importantly it is working with stakeholders to secure the economy. The regional district supports the working forest, the place where people work.

The Regional District (RD) supports forestry uses that demonstrate responsible management practices that meet all relevant provincial, federal and local government policies and regulations. They lobby for working forests as a major source of local employment and recognize the value of long term tenures associated with productive forest lands. They lobby for and encourage area based, rather than volume based forestry tenures within the Region, and they encourage and support community involvement in the review of proposed harvesting plans, related facilities and services plans and forestry road development plans. They also support the regional forestry sector in any provincial review of tenure, including improved opportunities for First Nations, community forests and other locally managed tenure options. The RD also lobbies for and encourages the sale of short term and small business timber access to North Island businesses and contractors; they lobby for access to wood fibre for local value added and processing operations; support proposals for the management and harvesting of non-timber forest products, particularly for commercially viable enterprises. With respect to small business and contractors the RD would like to see more access to local wood and for them to be able to access the supplies they need.

Local value added: this is a difficult business case, but the RD would like to see opportunities be generated.

Non Timber Forest Products: it is hard to make an economical business case for this due to the scale of operators.

Community Interface: the tourism /harvesting sectors- with Broughton and Sport Fishing interface needs to be managed.

The RD support practices that are sensitive to the appearance of the community interface, highway corridor and areas of popular recreation and tourism, encourage and support the continued operation and maintenance of the Nimpkish Valley Railway as a leader in sustainable approach to timber transportation, advocate for public access to and maintenance of forestry road to communities and critical sites such as Winter Harbour, Grant Bay, Quatsino Village, Shushartie Bay and Raft Cove. Furthermore the RD is

interested in keeping public access open to remote communities ie: the Telegraph Cove Road, Malcolm Island and the road up to Mount Cain.

The Nimpkish Valley Railway: this is to be supported by the Regional District ensuring the viability of the operation.

The RD is looking to encourage and support continued and improved management of salmonoid habitat enhancement, old growth management and conservations areas within the Region's forests.

Training and Development:

The RD supports development of fee-for service training of non-employees by the industry. The Englewood model of forestry training is a great model for training and development. The RD is looking to support programs like this and help access provincial funds and programs. It is also looking to support existing workforce/education integration initiatives with North Island College, School District 85 and develop a program to support sector training/education champions. A reference to Project comeback was made by Pat, the RD is looking for cooperative workplace- recruitment at the high school level to create placements within the forestry sector. This involves helping to cultivate the programs in Grade 11-12 into transitions to college and universities. It was noted by Pat English that there is mismatch in the forest sector- mismatch between communication between industry and students. It is important to make forestry a viable industry where man power shortages are matched up with graduating students from high school/university/college programs.

Sector Development:

The RD is interested in exploring with industry stakeholders the development of a Forest Advisory body for information sharing, networking, project collaboration, and common problem solving etc this will require help from industry (forest companies). The RD is looking to support local hiring and purchasing of goods and services; encourage small scale secondary processing or non-timber forest product companies, promote end encourage initiatives to increase utilization of forest waste,

The Regional District of Mount Waddington does support First Nations to optimize AAC allocation. It also advocates retaining Ministry of Forests, Lands and Natural Resource Operations regulatory staff in RDMW, it advocates for extension of area based tenure, advocates for amendments to preservation policies that harm the forest sector with minimal environmental and social benefit, and encourages municipalities to adopt a more proactive stance to promote the financial benefits flowing from the community forest.

Forest Waste: the North Island has a large waste fibre stock and the Regional District would be interested in partnering with a commercial firm to look into this. They are able to help with feasibility studies and other opportunities for helping in developing these initiatives. They cannot take the lead within the private sector but they can help in aiding champions.

The Regional District can advocate for federal and provincial government.

The Regional District is looking to lobby the Ministry of Forests Lands and Natural Resource Operation to retain staff in times of cutbacks. The RD is also looking to promote a balance with respect to Federal/Provincial interpretations of environmental legislation and regulations.

The RD would like the initiatives within the community such as the Community Forests to make public to the community where the financial benefits are being received.

Pat said he would circulate the draft of the Sector profile study to those who were involved and to those who would like to review it. He is looking for an overall fact check to ensure the information is correct. The RD would also like to verify that the economic reality is achievable and make sure all opportunities have been put forward.

The Regional District of Mount Waddington does not have any direct levers with respect to safety or legislation but it does have a role in advocacy. It has a voice in federal and provincial levels. It is important to line up community constituents to gain support in issues that need to be heard. The Regional District of Mount Waddington provides this and can influence and induce change especially in times of change.

Loki Heritage Park: is coming together. The track is down and they are looking to bring in some rock crush.

A question about Area based tenure came up and Pat stated that the Regional District prefers area based tenures as the best forest management is realized.

Overall it is important when advocating on behalf of small towns that voices/support lineup. Gaby supported this in that Regional Government is seen as a support for local Northern Communities.

Pat stated that within the Mount Waddington Regional District there are 11,500 people and 4,500 First Nations. He implied that the North Island has to stabilize and that growth is important within an aging workforce. The succession has to be seamless and built into the culture. Bringing high school kids along with technical or other post-secondary talent will strengthen the work force. There are over 2000 direct, indirect and induced jobs within the North Island forest sector and to ensure economic viability the industry has to become diverse, not sit still, and be progressive with technology.

While the industry may be shrinking, it is important to have a well skilled workforce in perpetuity.

Operational Update: Trevor Egely-Operational Planner, Englewood Forest Operation

As of July 2014 WFP Englewood has harvested 517,000 m³ and plans to harvest 263,000m³ by year end. August did not see any production due to fire weather indices.

Training: The third Logging Fundamentals class is underway with another 6 students. This would be the third session run in 2014.

Heli program: Canadian Air Crane is underway along with VIH-
VIH is harvesting 10,000m³ with the KAMOV and harvested 6,000m³ last week. The operation is behind with heli inventory due to the extended fire season but that is being mitigated by double shifting through September.

Incidents/Fires/Environment: There have been two fires to date at Englewood.

- 1) Kinman Fire: Non-Operational. Theory is currently thought to have started by a lightning strike. Fire has burned approximately 170ha in both regeneration, UWR and mature forest land. It is now out.
- 2) Wolfe Pinder: Fire within fresh harvest slash was started by a grapple yarder incident where a guyline snapped resulting in the yarder falling on its side with oil igniting on a hot manifold. The fire was immediately attacked with 3 helicopters including the medium-heavy lift KAMOV out and reported at 0.3ha.

Recreation: The Recreational Tower at the lookout just past Cut-block ME044 is now in place.

First Nations: EFO is finalizing agreements with the 'Namgis First Nation in a Limited Partnership opportunity within the proposed Treaty Settlement Area. Currently planning cut levels and joint management strategies. This is an exciting opportunity for both the 'Namgis First Nation and Western Forest Products.

Plans for 2015: are being developed. It is projected that 778,000m³ are to be harvested with 40,000m³ in the Atluck Timber License and a portion of heli-volume as well. Additionally, WFP Englewood is currently looking at Timber Sales within the Welsh Lakes area and will help facilitate the harvest if required.

Action Items Generated from September 18th, 2014 meeting:

Action Item 7: video the Loki move to the Heritage Park-coordinate signage for the Park.

Responsibility: Trevor to let Pat English know a few days in advance so he is able to coordinate a video and put up Interpretative Signs.

Due date: to be determined

Action Item 8: organize a Youth Forestry Initiative Talk-talk to Greg at College or Jon Flintoft (WFP)

Responsibility: Kelly

Due date: Next meeting

3. Next Meeting:

Kelly noted that the next meeting was scheduled for October 23rd, 2014. It was noted that Shannon Janzen was scheduled to speak about Recruitment and Successional Planning. The last meeting of the year is November 27, 2014 and is tentatively booked as a Youth Forestry Initiative talk.

Kelly thanked everyone for coming, bid them a safe journey home.