

G. CORRESPONDENCE

- 18 - 19 1. Trish Fossum, Resident. Re: Approval of Late Grant-in-Aid request to Council for Grattan Fossum. For discussion.
[policyCP2.18 Financial Support to Sports Competitors](#)
- 20 2. David Tsai, Executive Director of Operations, BC Nurses Union. Re: 2026 Donation Thank you. For information.
[2026 Convention 2026 General Donation - Thank You](#)
- 21 - 22 3. Councillor Cori Ramsay, President, Union of BC Municipalities. Re: Next phase of Provincial outreach for Heritage Conservation Act. For information.
[2026.06.04 HCA Update Memo to Members](#)
- 23 - 24 4. Honourable Nina Krieger, Minister of Public Safety and Solicitor General. Re: RCMP Service Delivery in Port Hardy and Port Alice. For information.
[689163 - Cameron Corbett-Labatt](#)
- 25 - 27 5. IGRS Local Government Communique. Re: FIFA World Cup 2026. For information.
[IGRS Local Government Communique](#)
- 28 6. Sandra Boyd, Manager, Pacificanna. Re: End2End Relay Invitation to Council. For information.
[End2End Relay Invitation](#)

H. COMMITTEE REPORTS

- 29 - 31 1. Minutes of the Committee of the Whole meeting held May 12, 2026. For information.
[COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE - 12 May 2026 - Minutes](#)
- 32 - 35 2. Draft minutes of the Emergency Planning Committee meeting held May 25, 2026. For information.
- Recommendation:*
THAT the Emergency Planning Committee recommend to Council that a letter be sent to Mainroad North Island requesting engagement with the Port Hardy Emergency Planning Committee.
- Motion.* 1. 2.
[EMERGENCY PLANNING COMMITTEE - 25 May 2026 - Minutes](#)
- 36 - 38 3. Draft minutes of the Parks, Recreation, Arts, and Culture Committee meeting held May 26, 2026. For information.
[PARKS, RECREATION, ARTS AND CULTURE COMMITTEE - 26 May 2026 - Minutes](#)
- 39 - 41 4. Draft minutes of the Committee of the Whole meeting held May 26, 2026. For information.
[COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE - 26 May 2026 - Minutes](#)

I. STAFF REPORTS

- 42 - 43 1. Noramay Isaac, Director of Finance. Re: 2026 Quarter 1 Finance Update. For information.



**MINUTES
DISTRICT OF PORT HARDY
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
HELD TUESDAY MAY 26, 2026
COUNCIL CHAMBERS - MS TEAMS**

We respectfully acknowledge that this meeting is being held on the traditional territory of the Kwakiutl people, Gilakas'la

- PRESENT:** Mayor Pat Corbett-Labatt, Councillors Janet Dorward, Dennis Dugas, Fred Robertson, Treena Smith, and John Tidbury
- ALSO PRESENT:** Heather Nelson-Smith, Chief Administrative Officer; Noramay Isaac, Director of Financial Services; Jason Jacinto, Director of Operational Services; Louisa Bates, Manager of Corporate Services; and Naomi Heith, Manager of Recreation & Community Services
- REGRETS:** Councillor Brian Texmo
- PRESS/PUBLIC:** None/Four
-

A. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Corbett-Labatt called the Regular Council meeting to order at 7:06 pm and respectfully acknowledged that the meeting is being held on the traditional territory of the Kwakiutl people.

B. APPROVAL OF AGENDA AS PRESENTED (OR AMENDED)

1. Addendum.

Late additions.

G. Correspondence. 5) Late Grant-in-Aid Request from Triport Minor Baseball, and,

H. Committee Reports. 1) Recommendation from the May 26, 2026 Parks, Recreation, Arts, and Culture Committee meeting to Council to submit an Expression of Interest to the Mini Peaks Legacy Program for a mini-pitch.

2026-080

Councillor Tidbury made a motion THAT the May 26, 2026 agenda of the Regular Council meeting be approved as amended. Councillor Smith seconded the motion. Carried.

C. ADOPTION OF MINUTES

1. Minutes of the Special Council meeting held May 14, 2026.

2026-081

Councillor Tidbury made a motion THAT the minutes of the Special Council meeting held May 14, 2026 be adopted as presented. Councillor Dorward seconded the motion. Carried.

2. Minutes of the Regular Council meeting held May 12, 2026.

2026-082

Councillor Tidbury made a motion THAT the minutes of the Regular Council meeting held May 12, 2026 be approved as presented. Councillor Smith seconded the motion. Carried.

D. DELEGATIONS AND REQUESTS TO ADDRESS COUNCIL

None.

E. BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES AND UNFINISHED BUSINESS

1. Council Action Item Report. Re: May 12, 2026 was received for information.

F. NEW BUSINESS

None.

G. CORRESPONDENCE

1. The Honourable Joanne Thompson, P.C., M.P., Minister of Fisheries. Re: Response to Letter of Concerns Regarding Proposed Changes to the Salmon Allocation Policy and Consultation Processes was received for information.
2. Councillor Cori Ramsay, President, Union of BC Municipalities. Re: Provincial Response to 2025 Resolutions was received for information.

Councillor Dorward declared a conflict of interest at 7:15 pm.

3. Cora Nelson, Rotary Club of Port Hardy. Re: 2026 Festival of Lights Request to Council.

2026-083

Councillor Tidbury made a motion THAT the request from the Rotary Club of Port Hardy Festival of Lights Planning Committee for the use of Carrot Park for the Festival of Lights be approved AND THAT all applicable permit applications, fees, and proof of liability coverage for the full duration of the event, including display installation and removal, be provided. Councillor Robertson seconded the motion. Carried.

Councillor Dorward rejoined the meeting at 7:19 pm.

4. Misty~Rose, President, TriPort Pride. Re: Park Use Request to Council for Midsummer Night's Dream Dance Event.

2026-084

Councillor Dorward made a motion THAT the request by Triport Pride Society for the use of Beaver Harbour Park on August 1, 2026 to host the Midsummer Night's Dream Dance be approved AND THAT all applicable applications, fees, and proof of liability coverage be provided. Councillor Dugas seconded the motion. Carried.

5. Triport Minor Baseball Late GIA Request.

2026-085

Councillor Tidbury made a motion THAT a \$1000 donation be made to Triport Minor Baseball. Councillor Dorward seconded the motion. Carried.

H. COMMITTEE REPORTS

1. Recommendation to Council from the Parks, Recreation, Arts, and Culture Committee. Re: Application to Mini Peaks Legacy Program for an Expression of Interest for a mini-pitch initiative in Port Hardy.

2026-086

Councillor Tidbury made a motion THAT the District submit an Expression of Interest to the Vancouver Whitecaps Mini Peaks Legacy Program in support of a mini-pitch initiative in Port Hardy. Councillor Smith seconded the motion. Carried.

I. STAFF REPORTS

1. Heather Nelson-Smith, Chief Administrative Officer. Re: Water Conservation Update.

Discussion included:
 - Stage two watering restrictions are now in effect.
2. Noramay Isaac, Director of Finance. Re: 2026 Quarter 1 Report was tabled to the next Regular meeting.

J. CURRENT BYLAWS AND RESOLUTIONS

None.

K. PENDING BYLAWS

None.

L. COUNCIL REPORTS

Mayor Corbett-Labatt and Councillors Janet Dorward, Dennis Dugas, Fred Robertson, Treena Smith, and John Tidbury provided an update on the meetings and events attended on behalf of the District of Port Hardy.

M. INFORMATION AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Information and announcements were received.

N. NOTICE OF IN CAMERA MEETING

None.

O. ADJOURNMENT

2026-087

Councillor Dorward made a motion THAT the meeting be adjourned at 8:04 pm.

CORRECT

APPROVED

CORPORATE OFFICER

MAYOR

Council Action Item Report - May 26, 2026					
Meeting Date	Meeting Item Description	Description	Staff Responsible	Follow-Up Status	Comments
18 May 2022	Beaver Harbour Park Bequest	Courts at Beaver Harbour Park.	Heather Nelson-Smith	In Progress	Completion July.
14 Oct 2025	Request for Upgrades to Park Dr. Ball Diamonds.	Request to be considered at next Regular meeting.	Heather Nelson-Smith	In Progress	Louisa Bates 20 Mar 2026 11:17:29 AM User meeting held; upgrades to come to Finance.
28 Oct 2025	Beaver Harbour Road Speed Limit.	Staff to initiate process to reduce the speed limit of the Beaver Harbour Road and Carlton St., Chatham Ave., and Scotia St.	Heather Nelson-Smith	In Progress	Heather Nelson-Smith 05 Feb 2026 10:30:36 AM Expect work to begin on this in Spring of 2026.
28 Oct 2025	Community-wide speed limit reduction investigation.	Staff to investigate community-wide speed limit reduction in residential neighbourhoods.	Heather Nelson-Smith	In Progress	
March 10, 2026	Nicki Ranger, Executive Director, North Island Community and Counselling Services and Heather Nelson-Smith, Chief Administrative Officer, District of Port Hardy Request. Re: Joint Request to School District 85 for Use of Robert Scott School Gym.	CAO to work with NICCCS on plan to bring back request to SD85 for reconsideration of request for use of the Robert Scott School Gym.	Heather Nelson-Smith	In Progress	Follow-up letter sent.
May 12, 2026	Filomi Days SOLL	Staff to notify proponent.	Louisa Bates	In Progress	Referred to RCMP for comment.
May 12, 2026	ORV Regulations	Staff to enage with proponent, investigate, and report back to Council at a future meeting.	Louisa Bates	In Progress	
May 12, 2026	Plan H Community Connectedness Grant Application	Staff to proceed with grant application.	Naomi Heith	In Progress	

Council Action Item Report - May 26, 2026					
Meeting Date	Meeting Item Description	Description	Staff Responsible	Follow-Up Status	Comments
May 12, 2026	8850 Douglas St.	Staff to proceed with statutory public notification process and lease agreement.	Louisa Bates	In Progress	
May 26, 2026	TriPort Minor Baseball	Staff to proceed with issuance of GIA.	Louisa Bates	In Progress	
May 26, 2026	PRAC recommendation to Council for Mini Peaks Legacy Program EOI for mini-pitch	Staff to proceed with issuance of GIA.	Heather Nelson-Smith	In Progress	Application for EOI submitted, shortlisted. Staff report on agenda for discussion.
May 26, 2026	Rotary Club of Port Hardy Festival of Lights	Staff to notify proponent of the decision of Council.	Louisa Bates	In Progress	
May 26, 2026	TriPort Pride Midsummer Nights Dance	Staff to notify proponent of the decision of Council.	Louisa Bates	In Progress	



District of Port Hardy

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June , 2026

Our file: 0400 Federal Government

The Right Honourable Mark Carney
Prime Minister of Canada
Office of the Prime Minister
80 Wellington Street
Ottawa, ON K1A 0A2

Dear Prime Minister Carney,

On behalf of the Council of the District of Port Hardy, we are writing regarding the Federal Government's aquaculture transition plan and the proposed removal of open-net pen aquaculture operations by 2029.

The District of Port Hardy participated in the federal consultation process in early 2025 and appreciated the opportunity to provide input regarding the future of aquaculture in British Columbia. Since those consultations, however, we have received little information regarding the implementation framework, transition supports, timelines, or long-term economic considerations for the coastal communities that will be directly impacted by these decisions.

Council wishes to make it clear that maintaining ocean-based aquaculture operations in our region is essential to the continued existence of the fish farming industry on the North Island. Given the realities of our geography, infrastructure, energy requirements, and economic conditions, land-based aquaculture is not economically viable for our region at the scale needed to sustain existing employment and investment. The current direction of the transition plan, if it results in the removal of open-net pen operations without practical, economically feasible alternatives, is unacceptable to our community.

The consequences of this approach would be severe and far-reaching. Port Hardy and neighbouring Indigenous communities would face substantial economic hardship, including job losses, business closures, declining investment, population loss, and reduced community services. In small rural communities such as ours, the impacts of losing a major industry ripple through every aspect of the local economy and social fabric. These impacts are immediate, visible, and long-lasting.

Port Hardy has experienced these challenges before. Following major economic downturns in mining and forestry, our community spent decades rebuilding its economy and stabilizing essential services. Aquaculture has become one of the key industries supporting our recovery, alongside marine industries, transportation, tourism, and regional economic development. The uncertainty since the initial 2019 transition announcement has already undermined investment confidence, workforce retention, and local business growth.

To support informed discussion, the District prepared the attached "Port Hardy Sustainable Transition" document, which outlines the specific concerns, risks, and recommendations for our region. The document highlights the need for infrastructure investment, economic support

measures, habitat restoration initiatives, workforce stability, and collaborative planning to ensure communities are not devastated by policy decisions.

Council supports science-based decision-making and recognizes the importance of protecting marine ecosystems and wild salmon populations. We believe environmental stewardship and sustainable economic activity must work together. It is also important to acknowledge that aquaculture today is very different from what it was when the industry first developed. Technology, fish health management, monitoring practices, and environmental standards have evolved significantly over time, and the industry's impact on the marine environment has changed in step with these advancements. This evolution must be recognized as part of the broader discussion and reinforces the importance of continuing to rely on current science, evidence-based assessments, and ongoing innovation when considering the future of aquaculture in coastal communities.

However, any transition plan must also be grounded in practical realities, regional economic conditions, and meaningful engagement with affected communities and Indigenous Nations. At this time, the proposed transition framework does not provide confidence that the economic sustainability of North Island communities has been adequately considered. We respectfully urge the Federal Government to reconsider a one-size-fits-all approach and work collaboratively with local governments, Indigenous Nations, industry, and coastal communities to identify solutions that protect both the environment and the people who rely on this sector. We further request that the Federal Government:

- Recognize that ocean-based aquaculture remains the only economically viable model for sustaining the aquaculture industry in our region;
- Ensure ongoing engagement with affected communities and Indigenous Nations throughout all stages of decision-making;
- Commit to science-based policies that balance environmental objectives with economic sustainability;
- Provide immediate clarity regarding the transition plan and implementation process; and
- Provide meaningful economic and infrastructure support to protect coastal communities from devastating economic impacts.

Port Hardy remains committed to constructive dialogue and collaboration. However, our Council must strongly emphasize that the removal of open-net pen aquaculture without a viable and sustainable alternative will decimate our community and surrounding Indigenous communities that rely on the aquaculture sector for employment, business opportunities, and long-term economic stability.

We urge your government to work with us toward a balanced and realistic path forward that protects both our environment and the future of coastal communities.

Sincerely,
The District of Port Hardy

Pat Corbet-Labatt,
 Mayor
(She/her) Acknowledging with gratitude and respect that we work, live and play on the traditional territory of the Kwakiutl people, Gilakas'la

CC: Honourable Premier Eby



PORT HARDY

Sustainable Transition

ABSTRACT

The Federal Transition Plan to close open-pen fish farms by June 2029 poses significant economic and social challenges for small communities like Port Hardy, requiring targeted federal support to ensure stability and growth.

Heather Nelson-Smith, CAO

December 2024

Introduction

The Federal Transition Plan to move open-pen net fish farms to closed containment or land-based aquaculture by June 2029 represents a significant shift in the aquaculture industry. The economic and social impacts on small rural communities like Port Hardy require critical examination and robust mitigation strategies. These communities are already grappling with forestry, mining, healthcare, housing, and mental health services challenges. A poorly managed transition could lead to devastating consequences for the local economy and community well-being. Planning for the worst-case scenario is not an option; we must ensure a thoughtful and supportive transition that safeguards the community's future.

Background: Port Hardy's Economic Evolution

In 1995, the closure of the mine marked the beginning of a prolonged and challenging economic recovery for Port Hardy. Over the past decade, the community has experienced significant revitalization, partly fueled by aquaculture's contributions. Additionally, strategic investments have driven economic growth, including developing a new Airport, a Coast Guard facility, and a Marine Response Depot. Opening new businesses, such as a McDonald's restaurant, and enhancements to the RCMP detachment reflect growing confidence in the area's potential.

Current Impacts of Transition Uncertainty

Since the 2019 announcement of the transition, the lack of detailed planning and support has already resulted in negative impacts:

- **Job Losses and Business Decline:** Due to uncertainty, many operations have curtailed some activities, leading to layoffs and reduced economic activity.
- **Population Shifts:** Families have begun relocating, anticipating job losses, further depleting the local workforce.
- **Business Retrenchment:** Local businesses, anticipating reduced demand, have started downsizing, compounding economic stress.
- **Investment Stagnation:** Given the uncertain regulatory and market conditions, the aquaculture industry has faced challenges securing investment.
- **Local Government Capacity and Planning:** Port Hardy does not have the capacity or ability to shift from one dominant job type to another quickly. As a community, we support investment through excellent services and initiatives that make Port Hardy an attractive place to live, encouraging businesses to invest. During our last transition, the community lost critical recreation services and support systems, further devastating those who remained. In recent years, we have focused on

expanding recreation services, including the pool, to foster a vibrant and resilient community. Maintaining these services during this transition is essential to avoid repeating past mistakes.

Recommendations for Federal Support

The Prime Minister's Blue Economy Commitment is the sustainable use of ocean resources to:

- Promote economic growth,
- Improve livelihoods and jobs, and
- Preserve the health of ocean ecosystems.

A federal commitment to enhancing the Blue Economy would provide long-term benefits by:

- Creating jobs and fostering economic resilience in coastal communities.
- Supporting habitat restoration and enhancement initiatives.
- Encouraging sustainable practices that protect marine biodiversity while maintaining economic productivity.

To ensure a successful transition that safeguards rural communities, the Federal Government should adopt a multi-faceted support strategy:

2. Economic Infrastructure Investment:

- The federal government to provide infrastructure for closed-pen marine fish farms, leasing them to local businesses to ensure continuity and encourage investment. This will show the sector and communities that there is longevity and commitment in this transition plan.
- Extend aquaculture licenses beyond nine years to foster long-term confidence in the industry.
- Provide necessary upgrades to power infrastructure to ensure capacity needs are met and reliable power is supplied to support business development, growth and sustainability.

3. Localized Economic Support:

- Establish a local CFIA office to enhance locally sourced fish sales and distribution.
- Fund localized Economic Development Capacity like [Misty Isles Economic Development Society](#) to promote local business growth and decision-making. The government-funded this initiative to support the land use plan on Haida Gwaii and the transition of the forestry sector.
- Support Community Futures in providing targeted assistance to businesses during the transition.
- Additional funding to be made available to Islands Coast Economic Trust to support those communities directly impacted and requesting funding support to enhance business revitalization.

4. Habitat Restoration and Enhancement Support:

- Invest in habitat restoration projects to ensure the health of marine ecosystems.
- Enhance funding for programs that balance environmental preservation with economic growth.

The Broader Context

Port Hardy is already navigating significant challenges in forestry, mining, and public services. Another economic downturn caused by a poorly managed transition in aquaculture could have catastrophic effects on community stability. Proactive and comprehensive federal support is crucial to prevent such outcomes and sustain the progress achieved in recent years.

Conclusion

The Federal Government can demonstrate its commitment to rural communities by ensuring a seamless transition in the aquaculture industry. This requires a bold approach, including extended timelines, infrastructure investment, longer licensing terms, and targeted support programs. By eliminating gaps in the transition process, the government can help Port Hardy and similar communities maintain economic stability and continue to thrive.



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June , 2026

Our file: 0400 Federal Government

The Right Honourable Mark Carney
Prime Minister of Canada
Office of the Prime Minister
80 Wellington Street
Ottawa, ON K1A 0A2

Dear Prime Minister Carney,

On behalf of the Council of the District of Port Hardy, we would like to extend our support for the Government of Canada's economic agenda and its commitment to strengthening economic growth, resiliency, and opportunity across the country.

As Canada advances initiatives focused on economic development, trade, resource growth, transportation infrastructure, and national competitiveness, Port Hardy is uniquely positioned to contribute meaningfully to these efforts. Located at the northern end of Vancouver Island, Port Hardy serves as a strategic transportation corridor with significant opportunities to support regional, provincial, and national economic priorities.

Our community is home to critical transportation assets, including deep sea access with significant marine development potential, an established airport with regional connectivity, and direct highway infrastructure linking northern Vancouver Island communities and industries. These assets position Port Hardy as an important gateway for transportation, logistics, marine services, and future trade opportunities that can support Canada's broader economic objectives.

In addition to our transportation advantages, Port Hardy continues to experience growing economic opportunities across multiple sectors. Emerging and expanding mining activity in the region, along with continued strength in marine industries, tourism, aquaculture, forestry, and Indigenous economic partnerships, are contributing to a renewed sense of momentum and investment potential for our community and the North Island region.

Council recognizes that achieving Canada's economic goals will require strong partnerships between all orders of government, Indigenous Nations, industry, and rural communities. Port Hardy is eager to be part of these conversations and to contribute constructively to discussions regarding infrastructure needs, transportation corridors, resource development, workforce readiness, housing, and sustainable economic growth.

As national economic priorities continue to evolve, we believe rural and northern coastal communities such as Port Hardy have an important role to play in supporting Canada's long-term prosperity and resilience. We welcome opportunities to engage with your government and federal ministries to ensure that the unique strengths and opportunities of our region are considered within future planning and investment strategies.

Thank you for your leadership and commitment to building a strong and prosperous Canada. We look forward to working collaboratively with your government to advance shared economic goals.

Sincerely,
The District of Port Hardy

Pat Corbet-Labatt,
Mayor

(She/her)

Acknowledging with gratitude and respect that we work, live and play on the traditional territory of the Kwakiutl people, Gilakas'la

CC: Honourable Premier Eby

DRAFT

DISTRICT OF PORT HARDY

POLICY MANUAL

COUNCIL POLICY
FINANCE

POLICY TO PROVIDE FINANCIAL
SUPPORT FOR SPORT COMPETITORS

POLICY # CP2.18

Approved: September 8, Council Resolution 2009-175
Amended: August 9 2016 Council Resolution 2016-154

Page 1 of 2

PREAMBLE

This policy is set to determine the amount of financial support, if any, that should be given to local sports Team competitors or Non- Team Individuals who are competing at a provincial, inter-provincial or national level Council will take into account the number of members on a team and the financial support available to them through their sports' affiliation. It is recognized that, while costs are greater for a large team, they also have a benefit of numbers for fundraising purposes.

POLICY

Team Sport Applicants

1. Team Sport Applicants are to present Council with:
 - A letter from the Sponsoring Team noting all details of the event they will attend, the number of players and coaches attending and mode of transportation;
 - A statement of their proposed expenses and all financial assistance that is available to them;
 - Proposed fundraising; and
 - Portion of costs payable by individuals.
2. Up to \$500 may be donated to the Team , to be judged on the basis of need.
3. Souvenir pins may be given to each Team .
4. A large District flag may be loaned to the Team for display at the event.

Non Team Sport (Individual) Applicants

1. Applicants are to present Council with:
 - A letter noting all details of the event they will attend, the number of players and coaches attending and mode of transportation;
 - A statement of their proposed expenses and all financial assistance that is available to them;
 - Proposed fundraising; and
 - Portion of costs payable by individual.
2. Up to \$250 may be donated to the Applicant, to be judged on the basis of need.
3. Souvenir pins may be given to the Participant.
4. A large District flag may be loaned to the Participant for display at the event.

DISTRICT OF PORT HARDY

POLICY MANUAL

COUNCIL POLICY
FINANCE

POLICY TO PROVIDE FINANCIAL
SUPPORT FOR SPORT COMPETITORS

POLICY # CP2.18

Approved: September 8, 2009 Council Resolution 2009-175
Amended: August 9 2016 Council Resolution 2016-154

Page 2 of 2

District of Port Hardy

1. Requests will be forwarded to the Director of Financial Services (DFS) for determination of available funding. If funding is available, the DFS will forward the application to Council for consideration.
2. Funding is limited to the amount provided in the annual Grant In Aid budget.

Sent via email from conferences@bcnu.org

Subject: BCNU 2026 Convention

Sent on behalf of David Tsai, Executive Director of Operations

Good afternoon,

We would like to extend our sincere thanks for your generous contribution to the BC Nurses' Union (BCNU) Annual Convention. This year's event, held from April 28-30 in Vancouver, successfully brought together over 500 members from across the province, along with BCNU leadership and nursing union representatives from across the country.

Your donation was used to help raise funds for our chosen charity, Cystic Fibrosis Canada. We're pleased to share that, thanks to the enthusiastic participation of our members, we have raised over \$27,000 for Cystic Fibrosis Canada.

Thank you once again for your continued support and generosity toward B.C.'s dedicated nurses.

Regards,



David Tsai
Executive Director of Operations



June 4, 2026

To: Mayor and Council;
Chair and Board;
Chief and Council;
CAOs

Dear colleagues,

Re: Next phase of Provincial outreach for *Heritage Conservation Act*

I am writing to you to provide an update from the Union of B.C. Municipalities on the next phase of the Province's outreach on the *Heritage Conservation Act* (HCA).

Background

The approach adopted by the Province to renewing the antiquated HCA has been a matter of considerable concern and action for UBCM since last August. UBCM has maintained from the very start of this process that it is important for the Province to renew the HCA, improve archaeological conservation, and work with First Nations leaders as it develops potential changes to the existing legislation.

We have also said that the Province's decision to work exclusively with First Nations leaders when determining solutions to amend the legislation left local governments outside of the most critical step of the policy process. The resulting proposals did not appropriately balance the full range of interests held by the various stakeholders and demonstrated gaps that would have benefited from the inclusion local government expertise. While the Province has addressed some of the concerns that have been identified, these have been piecemeal.

Earlier this spring the Province shared a technical policy paper and asked for feedback within a 30-day window. UBCM, local governments, business organizations and others responded to this opportunity, providing detailed input. However, the fact that the province had a three-column briefing document that outlined proposed changes to legislation just days after the close of the input period indicated that the Province did not take sufficient time to consider and integrate the feedback provided. To ensure UBCM's ability to speak publicly about the proposed changes and to affirm the need for a more transparent, collaborative approach to renewing the HCA, UBCM declined to sign a non-disclosure agreement to review the Province's briefing document.

What We are Asking For

UBCM has communicated to the Minister that the best option to restore trust in the process and to avoid unintended consequences from the ultimate legislation is to bring together a technical working group of First Nations, local government and business representatives. This should have been the approach from the start, and it is not too late to do the right thing now.

We have also asked that before passing a sweeping overhaul to the current legislation, the Province pilot implementation in a few communities to refine the key concepts for the legislation. This option has been dismissed by the Province out of hand as being impossible, but UBCM

continues to believe that there is precedent and a means for doing so. We maintain that this would be a wise course of action for all parties and will strengthen the support for the final legislation.

What Will Happen Next

The Province has not taken up UBCM's request for a working group of technical experts to continue policy work to support better legislation. Instead, it will be hosting a set of regional information sessions to present its intentions for legislation this fall. It is our understanding that notifications of these meetings have been sent to our members directly, and that there is a solid level of sign-ups so far. We encourage our members to attend these sessions.

UBCM will attend these meetings virtually to monitor feedback from our members, and we have requested the opportunity to provide an opening comment.

We remain engaged in the overall process for the transformation of the HCA and will do so in a manner that does not sacrifice the principle of effectively representing the interests of our members. It is our view that signing a non-disclosure agreement would impair our ability to communicate with our members, First Nations leaders, and the public, and that it would be unwise to sign at this critical juncture.

Next Steps for UBCM

We expect the latest outreach from the Province to be concluded in June, and that the Province intends to introduce legislation this fall.

UBCM has dedicated considerable resources to this file, and that will not change. Since last August: we featured the HCA at the 2025 Convention; led a consultation process with our members resulting in a thorough submission; provided a second submission to the Province's technical paper this spring; met with the Minister on several occasions and exchanged correspondence; and engaged with staff at the Ministry of Forests.

We will continue to engage with the Province to seek a better course of action consistent with our proposals for a technical working group and pilot program for key elements of the legislation and potential regulation. If you have any questions or comments about the process to renew HCA legislation, please contact our [office](#).

Sincerely,



Councillor Cori Ramsay
President, Union of BC Municipalities



VIA EMAIL

Ref. 689163

June 1, 2026

His Worship Kevin Cameron
Mayor, Village of Port Alice
1061 Marine Dr
Port Alice BC V0N 2N0
Email: mayor@portalice.ca

Her Worship Patricia Corbett-Labatt
Mayor, District of Port Hardy
7360 Columbia St, Box 68
Port Hardy BC V0N 2P0
Email: pcorbett-labatt@porthardy.ca

Dear Mayor Cameron and Mayor Corbett-Labatt,

Following our discussions regarding RCMP service delivery in Port Alice and Port Hardy, I am writing to advise that I have formally approved changes for both communities.

This decision supports the Province's commitment to modern, sustainable public safety services through the Service Delivery Modernization initiative. The BC RCMP and the Ministry of Public Safety and Solicitor General are working to ensure communities across British Columbia continue to benefit from strong, reliable policing models that reflect current needs and long-term sustainability.

Informed by analysis of member workload and wellness, I have approved the integration of Port Alice's policing resources into the Port Hardy Detachment. An RCMP presence will be maintained through a Community Policing Office in Port Alice. These changes align with community input, which underscored support for a more contemporary approach that strengthens service delivery while ensuring officers are well supported.

Residents can expect continued, visible police presence in both communities, and officers will continue their work in the community through regular patrols and engagement. The integrated model will also provide greater flexibility, improved responsiveness, and enhanced support for officers, which are important factors in maintaining consistent, effective policing.

.../2

Ministry of
Public Safety
and Solicitor General

Office of the Minister

Mailing Address:
Parliament Buildings
Victoria BC V8V 1X4

Mayor Cameron and Mayor Corbett-Labatt
Page 2

To ensure clarity in service expectations, a Service Level Agreement will guide how policing is delivered under this model. Your local Detachment Commander will engage with you to finalize the details of the Service Level Agreement and facilitate its review and signing.

In addition, the Province and the RCMP will complete a one-year review to assess the impacts of the new service delivery model, including community experience and service outcomes. We remain committed to ensuring this model continues to meet the needs of both Port Alice and Port Hardy.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Vedrana Covic, Executive Director, Indigenous, Core Policing and Contract Management, at vedrana.covic@gov.bc.ca or by telephone at 236-558-4235.

Sincerely,



Nina Krieger
Minister of Public Safety and Solicitor General

pc: Assist. Commissioner John Brewer, Criminal Operations Officer - Core Policing, RCMP
"E" Division
Chief Superintendent Bruce Singer, Island District Officer, RCMP "E" Division
Glen Lewis, Assistant Deputy Minister and Director of Policing and Law Enforcement
Services, Policing and Security Branch
Vedrana Covic, Executive Director, Policing and Security Branch

IGRS Local Government Communique – FIFA World Cup 2026™

FIFA World Cup 2026™ is the largest tournament in soccer history, taking place from June 11th to July 19th in 16 cities across Canada, Mexico, and the United States, including seven matches hosted in Vancouver. British Columbia will step onto the world stage, and the excitement is building in every corner of our province.

Whether you plan to travel to Vancouver for a match, or if you will participate in local festivities in your home community, you are invited to join in the celebration.

Key Dates

- **June 11 – *Opening Match*** in Mexico City, Mexico
- **July 19 – *Final Match*** in New York, U.S.

Vancouver Matches

- **June 13** – Australia vs. Türkiye
- **June 18** – Canada vs. Qatar
- **June 21** – New Zealand vs. Egypt
- **June 24** – Switzerland vs. Canada
- **June 26** – New Zealand vs. Belgium
- **July 2** – Round of 32 Match
- **July 7** – Round of 16 Match

Local Community Events

The Province is providing over \$1.7 million to support 33 communities throughout B.C. to host local events that celebrate the unifying power of sport. This funding supports soccer-themed events and watch parties that foster community pride and cultural expression, benefit local businesses, and help attract visitors to regions during the tournament.

Canada Celebrates will bring the benefits of hosting to communities throughout Canada with family-friendly, all-ages events. Tumbler Ridge will host festivities on June 15, as a chance for the community to connect with watch parties, entertainment, and soccer-themed interactive experiences. Other communities in B.C. on the Canada Celebrates tour include Cranbrook, Nelson, Fort St. John, Kamloops, Salmon Arm, and Revelstoke.



IGRS Local Government Communique – FIFA World Cup 2026™



Explore how to celebrate as a community, activate public spaces, and create memorable experiences for residents and visitors using the **Community Activation Playbook**: <https://vancouverfwc26.ca/community-hub/community-activation>.

Learn about community-led celebrations happening around the province: <https://news.gov.bc.ca/releases/2026TACS0020-000332>.

Explore World Cup inspired events happening across Vancouver and the region here: <https://www.destinationvancouver.com/world-cup-events>.

FIFA Fan Festival™

FIFA Fan Festival™ Vancouver is the city's official destination to watch the tournament and over the course of 28 days more than 70 matches will be broadcast live on screens and the grounds will feature entertainment from Canadian and global artists. A free event accessible to all and set within the historic PNE Grounds at Hastings Park, the festival will feature football activations, elevated food and beverage offerings, and experiences from partners. Premium seating can be purchased in the Amphitheatre.

Learn about the festival at <https://www.vancouverfwc26.ca/fifa-fan-festival>.

Science World and the FIFA Museum

Science World will host Soccer and Technology from the FIFA Museum, presented in partnership with the Province, which takes fans behind the scenes of the game, showing how innovation has shaped its continuing evolution. Making its North American debut, the new exhibition runs from May 15 until September 7 and is part of a summer of celebration of science and sport. Science World has been unveiled as The Beautiful Dome, a massive, 360-degree, 40-metre-diameter recreation of the Adidas Trionda, the official match ball.

BC Business House

BC Business House at the Vancouver Convention Centre will host business-related events, meetings, and functions during the World Cup. You are warmly invited to attend investment and trade events, including sector showcases. BC Business House is presented by the Province, Invest in Canada, and Invest Vancouver.

Register today at www.britishcolumbia.ca/bcbusinesshouse.





Know Before You Go and Emergency Management

To ensure your travel is safe and as worry-free as possible, learn more about official emergency channels, emergency services, medical advice, and helpful local supports available. Find a variety of helpful resources for fans planning to visit Vancouver and where to find essential emergency information here:

<https://www.vancouverfwc26.ca/know-before-you-go/need-to-know>.

- The City of Vancouver issues public safety alerts for urgent and severe emergencies. Get emergency alerts delivered straight to your phone, download the [Alertable App](#).
- Stay informed on important safety instructions and active emergencies in Vancouver at [Vancouver.ca/Alerts](https://vancouver.ca/alerts).
- Follow @EmergencyInfoBC or visit [EmergencyInfoBC.ca](https://emergencyinfobc.ca).
- If you need an immediate response from police, fire, or ambulance, call 9-1-1. [Learn more about when to call 9-1-1](#).
- Follow @VancouverPD to stay updated on police emergencies in Vancouver.
- Follow @rcmpgrcpolice for information on police emergencies in jurisdictions outside Vancouver like the YVR airport.
- For non-emergency services, information about Vancouver, or to report issues in Vancouver, call 3-1-1 or download the [Van311 app](#). Get details on parks and recreation, cycling and e-scooters, or report noise, graffiti, and more.
- Check for up-to-date road closures, conditions, weather data, and webcams with 24/7 transportation updates on [DriveBC.ca](https://drivebc.ca).
- Monitor [wildfire information](#) and the status of [prohibitions and restrictions](#) on [BCWildfire.ca](https://bcwildfire.ca) or follow @bcgovwildfireinfo.

Good Afternoon Pat

I am reaching out to invite you and council to attend the 2nd Annual End2End Cancer Relay. We are having the event at the Port Hardy High School, Wednesday June 17th 3-6pm. The Team will be arriving by 3. We have Ed Bain and Jeff King for Chek TV as members on our team and this year they will be Broadcasting the "Upside" from the High School. I am very excited to be a part of this event and to be able to show off our Triport!

I look forward to hearing from you. Thank you 😊

Sandra Boyd/Manager

www.pacificanna.ca

250-949-8590

She/her/hers



**MINUTES
DISTRICT OF PORT HARDY
COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING
HELD MAY 12, 2026
8890 CENTRAL STREET - MS TEAMS**

We respectfully acknowledge that this meeting is being held on the traditional territory of the Kwakiutl people, Gilakas'la

- PRESENT:** Mayor Pat Corbett-Labatt, Councillors Janet Dorward, Dennis Dugas, Fred Robertson, and John Tidbury
Online via MS Teams: Councillor Treena Smith
- ALSO PRESENT:** Heather Nelson-Smith, Chief Administrative Officer, Noramay Isaac, Director of Finance/Deputy CAO, Naomi Heith, Manager of Recreation and Community Services, and Louisa Bates, Manager of Corporate Services
- REGRETS:** Councillor Brian Texmo
- PRESS/PUBLIC:** None/Two
-

A. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Corbett-Labatt called the meeting to order at 6:15 pm and respectfully acknowledged that the meeting is being held on the traditional territory of the Kwakiutl people.

B. APPROVAL OF AGENDA AS PRESENTED (OR AMENDED)

1. **COW 2026-012**
Councillor Tidbury made a motion THAT the May 12, 2026 agenda of the Committee of the Whole meeting be approved as presented. Councillor Dugas seconded the motion. Carried.

C. ADOPTION OF MINUTES

1. Minutes of the Committee of the Whole meeting held March 10, 2026.
COW 2026-013
Councillor Tidbury made a motion THAT the minutes of the Committee of the Whole meeting held March 10, 2026 be adopted as presented. Councillor Dorward seconded the motion. Carried.

D. DELEGATIONS & PRESENTATIONS

1. Derek Lamb, CPA, CA and Pieter de la Rey, CPA, CA, Chan Nowosad Boates Re: Draft Financial Statements and Audit Findings Report for Year Ending December 31, 2025.

Audit Findings Report was presented; highlights included:

Significant audit matters-

Tangible Capital Assets:

- \$3,871,099 of capital assets acquired in 2025; \$2,672,420 in 2024.
- \$1,826,342 accounted for with the newly built Water Reservoir #2.
- Capital works in progress \$733,315; includes the Tzulquate Park Centrifuge and distribution system projects (\$433,364 and \$61,370 respectively).
- No amortization on projects still in progress.
 - Misstatements:
 - Adjusted proposed to record capital additions and amortization.
 - 2% inflationary adjustment proposed for Asset Retirement Obligations.
 - No significant control deficiencies identified as a result of the above.

Accounting System Conversion:

- Switched accounting systems from MAIS to Catalis.
- New system effective as of February 23, 2025.
- Trial balances were obtained to verify both systems aligned; where balances didn't match journal entries made to confirm the two systems agreed.
- Control Deficiencies:
- No significant control deficiencies were identified with the exception of one related to the processes employed to implement the new accounting software.

Significant Accounting Practices-

- Accounting policies deemed appropriate for nature of organization and operation.
- No significant changes to accounting policies for reporting period.
- Misstatements:
 - Identified and categorized accordingly as uncorrected and corrected.
 - Misstatements below \$17,900 not investigated further.
- Control Deficiencies:
 - Required to obtain understanding of Internal Control over Financial Reporting (ICFR) for opinion on financial statements, not on effectiveness of internal controls.

2025 Consolidated Financial Statements were presented; highlights included:

- Independent audit report.
- Clean audit opinion.

Statement of Financial Position:

- Financial assets- \$16,758,256.
- Liabilities- \$7,577,172.
- Net Financial Assets- \$9,181,084.
- Non-Financial Assets- \$47,991,140.
- Accumulated Surplus- \$57,172,224.

Statement of Operations:

- Total revenues- \$12,100,013 (actual); \$12,486,087 (budgeted).

E. ADJOURNMENT

COW 2026-015

Councillor Dugas made a motion THAT the meeting be adjourned at 6:39 pm.

CORRECT

APPROVED

CORPORATE OFFICER

MAYOR



**MINUTES
DISTRICT OF PORT HARDY
EMERGENCY PLANNING COMMITTEE MEETING
HELD MAY 25, 2026
COUNCIL CHAMBERS - MS TEAMS**

We respectfully acknowledge that this meeting is being held on the traditional territory of the Kwakiutl people, Gilakas'la

- PRESENT:** Councillor John Tidbury (Chair); Anika Tarata, Port Hardy Harbour Authority; Lionel Gunson, Port Hardy Emergency Planning Coordinator/FireSmart Coordinator; Brent Borg, Port Hardy Fire Chief; Mike McCulley, Port Hardy Deputy Emergency Planning Coordinator; and Kim Rutherford, St. Sgt., RCMP
- ALSO PRESENT:** Heather Nelson-Smith, Chief Administrative Officer and Louisa Bates, Manager of Corporate Services
- REGRETS:** Janet Hanuse, Band Manager, Gwa'sala-'Nakwaxda'xw Nation; Margaret McDougall, Emergency Planning Coordinator, Kwakiutl First Nation; and, Sirita Hoenen, BC Emergency Health Services
-

A. CALL TO ORDER

Chair Tidbury called the meeting to order at 12:00 pm and respectfully acknowledged that the meeting was being held on the traditional territory of the Kwakiutl people.

B. APPROVAL OF AGENDA AS PRESENTED (OR AMENDED)

EPC 2026-007 Moved/Seconded/Carried

THAT the May 25, 2026 agenda of the Emergency Planning Committee meeting be approved as presented.

C. ADOPTION OF MINUTES

- Minutes of the Emergency Planning Committee meeting held March 30, 2026.

EPC 2026-008 Moved/Seconded/Carried

THAT the minutes of the Emergency Planning Committee meeting held March 30, 2026 be adopted as presented.

D. DELEGATIONS

None.

E. BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES AND UNFINISHED BUSINESS

- Emergency Planning Committee Action Item Report. Re: March 30, 2026.

Signage as alternate Emergency Evacuation Route - Andrew Ashford.

EPC 2026-009 Moved/Seconded/Carried

THAT the Emergency Planning Committee recommend to Council that a letter be sent to Mainroad North Island requesting engagement with the Port Hardy Emergency Planning Committee.

2. Port Hardy Emergency March 2026 Tabletop Exercise. Re: Port Hardy Tsunami Exercise After-Action Report.

The Committee reviewed and discussed the recommendations from the Port Hardy Tsunami Exercise After- Action Report; key discussions included:

- Discrepancies noted between tsunami zone areas (6m vs. 10m).
- Storey's Beach designated evacuation site:
 - Logistical challenges with access to Avalon School in event of emergency, limited volunteer capacity and facility amenities.
 - Suggested that shared use of Wagalus Elementary be explored as a possible alternative.
- Signage and notification system:
 - Suggestion that additional signage be installed in low-lying areas such as marinas, entry points into town and outlying neighbourhoods, wayfinding signage.
 - Concerns were expressed for reduced effectiveness of excessive signage.
 - A sticker system was suggested as a means to increase awareness of households and businesses in areas that are located within the tsunami hazard zone to improve readiness.
- Contingency checklist review to be scheduled as standing item.
- Business continuity planning needed to support emergency readiness and recovery efforts.
- Notice templates preparation underway.
- Training and emergency response protocols review scheduled with municipal staff.
- Opportunity for budget items as part of 2027 budget process.
- Inter-agency communication plan established and connected.

S.Sgt. Kim Rutherford left the meeting at 12:12 pm.

ACTION: Staff to complete emergency signage inventory.

ACTION: Staff to prepare a high-level list of the recommendations, assign out, and include status and action requirements and bring back to the Committee for review.

3. Emergency Preparedness Week Wrap-up.

Discussion included:

- Fire Hall preferred venue over Save On Foods parking lot.
- Fewer attendees that previous years; due to new location.
- Attendees engaged; came with intent to learn more about emergency preparedness.
- Event coincided with fire demo training;

- Hotdogs offered by Port Hardy Fire Rescue by donation.
- Lower agency participation than previous years; suggested that a request for participation be brought forward to agencies the fall.
- Difficulties experienced engaging local schools despite invitations being sent out in the fall and incentives being offered (i.e. pizza and pool party) to participate in fair; engagement remained low when opened to local youth and families.
- Additional suggestions included:
 - Combine with hotdog fundraiser for local organization.
 - Travelling roadshow style to deliver presentations at schools.
 - Wait to invite classes until the new year.

F. CORRESPONDENCE

None.

G. NEW BUSINESS

1. District of Port Hardy Water Conservation Update.

Discussion included:

- Level 2 watering restrictions to be activated May 26 based on ongoing drought conditions.
- Primary changes include:
 - Reduction in the frequency of days households can water.
 - New lawns permit applications not accepted; previously issued permits no longer valid, required to comply with regular regulations.

2. Coastal Fire Centre. Re: Wildfire Status Update - May 15, 2026.

Discussion included:

- Weather patterns indicative that conditions like to favour increased lightning activity in the coming season; higher risk of spot fire ignition due to lightning strikes.
- Noted that regionally, BC Wildfire Service has been relatively stable despite freeze on non-discretionary spending.
- Wildfire response team to be in the region for the summer.

H. COMMITTEE MEMBER REPORTS

FireSmart Coordinator:

- One FireSmart coordinator quit; second coordinator hired.
- Several school presentations completed; overall very well received.
- Learners provided with self-assessment package to take home; no responses received to date despite prize incentives including a ride in a fire truck during the Filomi Days parade.
- Attended Emergency Preparedness Fair.
- Attended FireSmart Coordinators meeting via MS Teams.

Port Hardy Fire Rescue:

- 10 01 Exterior certification training now completed; very well received by members, lots of engagement.
- Training to resume in September to complete interior portion.

Port Hardy Harbour Authority:

- Port Hardy Fire Rescue on site to complete Marine Firefighting Training; practical portion well attended.

Deputy Emergency Coordinator:

- Able to offer select JIBC training.

ACTION: Brent and Mike to connect to discuss potential for ISC 100 training.

I. STAFF REPORTS

None.

J. NEXT MEETING DATE

September 28, 2026 at 12:00 pm.

K. ADJOURNMENT

THAT the meeting be adjourned at 1:15 pm.



**MINUTES
DISTRICT OF PORT HARDY
PARKS, RECREATION, ARTS AND CULTURE COMMITTEE
MEETING
HELD MAY 26, 2026
COUNCIL CHAMBERS - MS TEAMS**

We respectfully acknowledge that this meeting is being held on the traditional territory of the Kwakiutl people, Gilakas'la

PRESENT: Councillors Fred Robertson (Chair), Treena Smith, and John Tidbury

ALSO PRESENT: Heather Nelson-Smith, Chief Administrative Officer, Naomi Heith, Manager of Recreation and Community Services, and Louisa Bates, Manager of Corporate Services

REGRETS: None

PUBLIC: None/Six

A. CALL TO ORDER

Chair Robertson called the meeting to order at 5:15 pm and respectfully acknowledged that the meeting is being held on the traditional territory of the Kwakiutl people.

B. APPROVAL OF AGENDA AS PRESENTED (OR AMENDED)

PRAC 2026-009 Moved/Seconded/Carried

THAT the May 26, 2026 agenda of the Parks, Recreation, Arts, and Culture Committee meeting be approved as presented.

C. ADOPTION OF MINUTES

1. Minutes of the Parks, Recreation, Arts and Culture Committee meeting held March 10, 2026.

PRAC 2026-010 Moved/Seconded/Carried

THAT the minutes of the Parks, Recreation, Arts, and Culture Committee meeting held March 10, 2026 be adopted as presented.

D. DELEGATIONS

None.

E. BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES AND UNFINISHED BUSINESS

1. Parks, Recreation, Arts and Culture Action Item Report: Re: March 2026 was received for information.

F. TWINNING

1. Heather Nelson-Smith, Chief Administrative Officer. Re: Update on 2026 Twinning Exchange to Numata. Verbal Report.

Discussion included:

- 6 delegations to partake in 2026 exchange; 4 adults and 2 youth.
- Departure scheduled for August 16, to return August 28.
- Delegates to make a presentation; meeting scheduled to discuss further.

G. CORRESPONDENCE

1. Request for Equipment at Upper Carnarvon Park.

Discussion included:

- Upper Carnarvon Park previously assumed to be built and managed by a strata based on how the neighbourhood was developed; not developed by the District.
- There has not been much in terms of equipment invested over the years.
- Committee expressed interest in learning more about what the youth would be looking for.
- Park equipment can be costly; important that parameters be established prior to engaging with the proponent to set expectations.
- Staff noted that requests for upgrades to other parks have also been received.

2. Anna Kucharski. Re: Request for Consideration of Mini Pitch Grant Funding Application.

Discussion included:

- Applications now being accepted for the Vancouver Whitecaps Mini Peaks Legacy Program for \$500,000 to fund the installation of a mini-pitch.
- Application deadline May 31, 2026.
- Two applications to be approved per region.
- Program aimed to support expanded recreation in rural and remote communities.
- Mini-pitch field equivalent in size to one tennis court; requirement for asphalt or concrete surface.
- Option to submit an Expression of Interest.
- Preference for municipalities to be the primary applicant.
- Proponent suggested 5 potential sites within the District; site would need to be publicly owned.
- Grant to cover include the costs of the installation of the infrastructure including drainage mitigation, lighting, and fencing as well as training for coaches.
- If successful, initiative would support expanded recreation opportunities within

the community on a year-round basis.

- Pitch has potential multi-sport use.

PRAC 2026-011 Moved/Seconded/Carried

THAT the Parks, Recreation, Arts, and Culture Committee recommend to Council that the District submit an Expression of Interest to the Mini Peaks Legacy Program for a mini-pitch.

3. Alixe Regan, Founder, international Park Golf Aiko Canada. Re: Park Golf for Port Hardy - Strengthening the Bridge with Numata.

Discussion included:

- Similar concept to disc golf.
- Inclusive sport, open to all ages.
- Etiquette included.

H. NEW BUSINESS

None.

I. COMMITTEE MEMBER REPORTS

None.

J. STAFF REPORTS

1. Naomi Heith, Manager of Recreation and Community Services. Re: March April Parks, Recreation, Arts and Culture Report was received for information.

K. NEXT MEETING DATE

September 8, 2026 at 5:15 pm.

L. ADJOURNMENT

PRAC 2026-012 Moved/Seconded/Carried

THAT the meeting be adjourned at 6:09 pm.

CORRECT

APPROVED

CORPORATE OFFICER

MAYOR



**MINUTES
DISTRICT OF PORT HARDY
COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING
HELD MAY 26, 2026
COUNCIL CHAMBERS - MS TEAMS**

We respectfully acknowledge that this meeting is being held on the traditional territory of the Kwakiutl people, Gilakas'la

- PRESENT:** Mayor Pat Corbett-Labatt, Councillors Janet Dorward, Dennis Dugas, Fred Robertson, Treena Smith, and John Tidbury
- ALSO PRESENT:** Heather Nelson-Smith, Chief Administrative Officer; Naomi Heith, Manager of Recreation and Community Services; and Louisa Bates, Manager of Corporate Services
- REGRETS:** Councillor Brian Texmo
- PRESS/PUBLIC:** None/None
-

A. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Corbett-Labatt called the meeting to order at 6:19 pm and respectfully acknowledged that the meeting is being held on the traditional territory of the Kwakiutl people.

B. APPROVAL OF AGENDA AS PRESENTED (OR AMENDED)

COW 2026-013

Councillor Robertson made a motion THAT the May 26, 2026 agenda of the Committee of the Whole meeting be approved as presented. Councillor Tidbury seconded the motion.

C. NEW BUSINESS

1. 2026 Union of BC Municipalities AGM & Convention. Minister meeting requests.

The following Provincial ministries and meeting topics were discussed:

- Premier:
 - Regional economic diversification and investment readiness;
 - Forestry, mining and marine sector opportunities;
 - Transportation and logistics infrastructure;
 - Renewable energy opportunities, including wind and run-of-river expansion potential;
 - Housing shortages, poverty, and cancelled housing projects affecting overall well-being and misalignment with provincial priorities;
 - Reconciliation and partnership opportunities with Indigenous communities; and,
 - Provincial support to position Port Hardy and the North Island as a strategic economic gateway.

- Ministry of Forests:
 - North Island Community Forest expansion opportunities;
 - Improved access to fibre and local wood allocation;
 - Long-term forestry sustainability and economic certainty;
 - Support for value-added forestry opportunities;
 - Partnership opportunities that support reconciliation and regional economic resilience.
- Ministry of Housing and Municipal Affairs:
 - Cancellation of the Sanala culturally supportive housing project;
 - Cancellation of the Women's Transition Housing project previously approved prior to COVID-19;
 - Rural homelessness and supportive housing needs;
 - Workforce housing barriers impacting economic growth; and,
 - Opportunities for renewed provincial housing partnerships and funding access.
- State of Local Governments and Rural Communities:
 - Poverty;
 - Homelessness;
 - Boundary expansion;
 - Municipal capacity;
 - Readiness for mine;
 - Rural grant funding accessibility; and,
 - Economic transition support.
- Ministry of Health:
 - Need for sustainability of emergency healthcare services on the North Island, including emergency room continuity, and emergency medical transport; and,
 - Challenges and increasing service vulnerability associated with recruitment, retention, emergency response, and patient transfers.
- Ministry of Transportation and Transit:
 - Highway 19 paving and maintenance priorities;
 - Road condition concerns affecting safety and economic activity;
 - Roadside woody debris and slash management adjacent to provincial highways;
 - Signage and corridor way-finding improvements; and,
 - Transportation reliability for remote and northern communities.
- Indigenous Relations & Reconciliation:
 - Museum funding;
 - Cenotaph pole replacement;
 - Indigenous veteran recognition; and,
 - Cultural preservation partnerships.
- Ministry of Environment and Parks:
 - Cape Scott Provincial Park preservation and ecological stewardship;
 - Impact of increased tourism and visitation pressures,
 - Visitor education and safety, and,
 - Proactive management strategies.
- Ministry of Mining and Critical Minerals:
 - If needed.

Additional discussion:

- Letter to Hon. Mark Carney, Prime Minister to advocate for economic readiness and investment.
- Letter to Hon. Mark Carney, Prime Minister to request an update on the status of the aquaculture transition plan consultation and concerns.

D. ADJOURNMENT

COW 2026-014

Councillor Robertson made a motion THAT the meeting be adjourned at 7:02 pm.

CORRECT

APPROVED

CORPORATE OFFICER

MAYOR

Q1 - March 31, 2026 Budget to Actual Consolidated Report

Happy Under Budget
OH NO! Over Budget

Expenditures	Budget - Q1	Actual - Q1	Over (Under) Budget	Variance %	Budget Year
Legislative	65,129	44,049	-21,080	-32%	260,515
Administration	257,363	237,905	-19,458	-8%	1,029,453
Emergency Services	13,737	11,620	-2,117	-15%	54,949
Fire Protection	123,323	76,890	-46,433	-38%	493,293
Building Inspection/permits	32,305	29,949	-2,356	-7%	129,219
Animal control	19,122	21,339	2,217	12%	76,488
Common services	204,696	180,691	-24,005	-12%	818,782
Transportation	143,253	53,042	-90,211	-63%	573,012
Seagate wharf	23,845	17,918	-5,927	-25%	95,378
Fisherman's Wharf	72,063	76,563	4,500	6%	288,250
Waste Collection	85,865	64,279	-21,586	-25%	343,459
Cemetery	3,585	2,734	-851	-24%	14,340
Development	84,630	72,866	-11,764	-14%	338,520
Recreation	99,025	87,811	-11,214	-11%	396,100
Arena	140,895	134,163	-6,732	-5%	563,578
Pool	135,531	104,473	-31,058	-23%	542,124
District Maintenance	98,273	26,533	-71,740	-73%	393,091
Parks	102,932	87,462	-15,470	-15%	411,729
Water	342,451	244,840	-97,611	-29%	1,369,805
Sewer	202,896	179,756	-23,140	-11%	811,583
	2,250,917	1,754,882	-496,035	-22%	9,003,668





Consolidated Operations Expenditures Budget to Actual Q1



Prepared by Noramay Isaac
 Director of Financial Services

T:\Finance\Director of Financial Services\1. Quarterly Reports\Council\2026\Operations Report w graph 2026.xlsx

REGULAR COUNCIL STAFF REPORT



To: Mayor and Council
Subject: MINI PEAKS Legacy Project – Phase 2 Advancement and Site Selection Considerations
Meeting: REGULAR COUNCIL - 09 Jun 2026
Department: Senior Staff
Staff Contact: Heather Nelson-Smith, Chief Administrative Officer

PURPOSE:

The purpose of this report is to inform Council that the District of Port Hardy has successfully advanced to Phase 2 of the MINI PEAKS Legacy Project application process and to outline key considerations related to site selection, municipal responsibilities, staff capacity, financial implications, and community consultation prior to any further commitment.

BACKGROUND:

The MINI PEAKS Legacy Project is a FIFA World Cup 2026 legacy initiative delivered through a partnership between Vancouver Whitecaps FC, viaSport, and the Province of British Columbia. The program provides successful communities with a professionally installed synthetic turf mini-pitch, grassroots soccer programming support, coach development opportunities, and community activation resources.

The District of Port Hardy submitted a Phase 1 Expression of Interest following the regular Council Meeting of May 26, 2026, identifying the need for improved year-round soccer infrastructure to serve Port Hardy and surrounding North Island communities.

Following review of the submission, the District received confirmation that the application has successfully met the preliminary eligibility and community need requirements and has been approved to advance to Phase 2 – Technical Site Assessment.

The project team has advised that:

- The District's position in the application queue has been secured based on the original submission date.
- Final technical specifications and geotechnical requirements are currently being finalized with the project supplier.
- Detailed Phase 2 submissions will commence once those requirements have been released. Advancement to Phase 2 does not guarantee project approval but confirms that Port Hardy has been identified as a strong candidate under the program criteria.

Discussion

Community Need and Project Benefits

The original application identified a significant regional need for year-round soccer infrastructure. Port Hardy serves as a recreation hub for the North Island and supports participation from surrounding communities, including Port McNeill, Port Alice, Kwakiutl First Nation, Gwa'sala-'Nakwaxda'xw Nations, Quatsino First Nation, and other rural and Indigenous communities.

Local soccer programming is largely volunteer-driven and relies on natural-grass fields that are frequently affected by weather, drainage limitations, and seasonal closures. and are not owned by the District.

A mini-pitch would provide:

- Year-round soccer opportunities.
- Increased physical activity and youth engagement.
- Additional recreation opportunities for North Island families.
- Coach development and training.
- A lasting FIFA World Cup 2026 community legacy.

Staff acknowledge there is demonstrated interest in the project from local soccer organizations and community members.

Site Selection Considerations

As part of the Expression of Interest process, staff identified several potential locations, including:

- Recreation Centre tennis court.
- Park Drive ball field outfield area.
- Cedar Heights Park.
- Upper Carnarvon Park.
- and Other municipally owned recreation lands.

Subsequent discussions with the project team provided additional clarification regarding site requirements.

The project team confirmed that:

- The mini-pitch requires a paved base surface.
- Communities are responsible for all site preparation costs.
- The synthetic turf surface is intended primarily for soccer.
- Pickleball or Tennis cannot be played in its intended format on the surface.
- The facility must remain consistent with FIFA World Cup legacy design requirements.

While the Recreation Centre tennis court location may be one of the most "site-ready" options due to existing servicing, parking, washrooms, and accessibility features, converting the tennis court would remove an existing recreation asset and would not support future tennis/pickleball use.

Alternative locations such as Park Drive, Cedar Heights Park, or Upper Carnarvon Park would preserve existing recreation assets but would require substantial site preparation, including grading, drainage improvements, paving, and servicing.

At this time, we have applied for the tennis court as the preferred location; this may change if the Council identifies a more suitable location we did not consider.

Asset Management Considerations

Staff believe this opportunity should be evaluated through an asset management lens.

Although the mini-pitch itself would be funded through the MINI PEAKS Legacy Project, the District would remain responsible for:

- Site preparation and construction readiness.
- Drainage and servicing requirements.
- Ongoing operations and maintenance.
- Security and inspections.
- Future lifecycle replacement costs.
- Long-term stewardship of the facility.

The District currently maintains a significant inventory of recreation and park infrastructure, including that which requires investment:

- Recreation Centre Tennis Courts.
- Cedar Heights Park.
- Upper Carnarvon Park.
- Park Drive sports field.
- These assets require ongoing investment, renewal, and maintenance.

From an asset management perspective, staff generally recommend maintaining and improving existing infrastructure before expanding the overall municipal asset inventory. The addition of another dedicated recreation facility will create ongoing maintenance obligations and future replacement liabilities that must be considered alongside current infrastructure priorities.

Staffing and Operational Impacts

This project was not identified within the District's current financial plan, departmental work plans, or approved capital projects.

Advancing through Phase 2 and beyond would require staff involvement in:

- Site assessments (District cost)
- Technical reviews (District cost)
- Engineering coordination (District Cost)
- Public Works consultation
- Environmental review (District Cost)
- Preparation of technical documentation (District Cost)
- Grant writing
- Stakeholder engagement
- Coordination with project partners
- Financial amendment to the budget
- Program planning and implementation

If the project ultimately proceeds, additional staff resources may be required to support:

- Grassroots programming commitments
- Facility activation
- Reporting requirements
- Ongoing maintenance oversight
- Community partnerships.

Given existing workloads and priorities, staff believe the administrative and operational requirements of the project should be carefully evaluated before proceeding.

Community Partnership Opportunity

Staff have received strong indications that support from the North Island Soccer Association may be available. The Association has expressed interest in assisting with fundraising efforts and pursuing additional grant opportunities to help offset potential project costs and support long-term programming and activation.

Given that the project was not identified within the District's current financial plan, capital budget, or departmental work plans, Council may wish to consider a partnership approach that leverages community support while limiting impacts on municipal resources.

Under this approach, the District would continue to provide leadership with respect to site selection, municipal approvals, and coordination with the MINI PEAKS project team, while the North Island Soccer Association and community volunteers could assist with:

- Fundraising initiatives.
- Additional grant applications.
- Community engagement and promotion.
- Volunteer recruitment and coordination.

Once final site requirements and cost implications are known, Council would be in a better position to determine the level of municipal investment required and whether additional community fundraising or grant funding is necessary.

This collaborative approach would allow the District to continue exploring the opportunity while leveraging the enthusiasm, capacity, and community connections of the local soccer community, thereby reducing pressure on municipal staff resources and budgets.

Community Consultation Considerations

Staff anticipate that selecting a preferred site may generate differing perspectives within the community.

Council may wish to consider the community's concerns around removing the tennis/pickleball court.

Public engagement would provide an opportunity to gather feedback, identify concerns, and build community support. However, consultation activities would require additional staff time and resources and could affect project timelines.

Given that the MINI PEAKS program operates on a rolling intake basis, Council will need to balance the value of public engagement against project timing considerations and available staff capacity.

FINANCIAL:

Based on the requirements, without evaluating the costs if the servicing does not meet the specifications and further upgrading if required, resurfacing the tennis courts would range between \$100,000 and \$180,000 (Note staff will need to bring forward in 2027 as the courts are in need of resurfacing) but we want to confirm that the current court surface for the mini pitch (one court) may be suitable. And the assessment estimate would be approximately \$37,500. Staff project oversight administration is estimated at 10% of total project costs.

OPTIONS:

1. Direct staff to continue with the Phase 2 Technical Assessment and report back with a preferred site, estimated costs, and long-term maintenance implications.
2. Continue to Phase 2 while working with the North Island Soccer Association to support fundraising, grant applications, community engagement, and future programming.
3. Withdraw the application and focus available resources on existing recreation infrastructure priorities.

RECOMMENDATION:

Staff recommend Option 2, as it allows the District to continue exploring the opportunity while sharing responsibilities with the local soccer community and deferring any final financial commitment until site requirements and costs are better understood.

Respectfully submitted,



Heather Nelson-Smith, CRM
Chief Administrative Officer