



qathet REGIONAL DISTRICT

Committee of the Whole AGENDA

Wednesday, June 24, 2026
1:00 PM

Regional District Boardroom

Page

1. CALL TO ORDER

2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

2.1 Committee of the Whole Agenda

THAT the agenda be approved, as presented.

3. ADOPTION OF MINUTES

3.1 Minutes of the Committee of the Whole Meeting - May 27, 2026 5 - 12

THAT the minutes of the Committee of the Whole meeting held May 27, 2026 be adopted.

4. DELEGATION & INQUIRIES

5. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

6. CORRESPONDENCE

**6.1 Correspondence dated May 21, 2026 from Pat Christie,
Secretary, Life Cycle Housing Society re Municipal & Regional
District Tax Revenues (MRDT)** 13

**6.2 Correspondence dated June 3, 2026 from Ryan Kolba re BC
Ferries Westview Terminal Motorcycle Access Issue** 15

**6.3 Correspondence dated June 10, 2026 from Jen MacLean,
Desolation Dive Services Ltd. re Request for Letter of Support:
Desolation Dive Services Ltd - Ghost Gear Application** 17 - 18

- 6.4 **Correspondence dated June 9, 2026 from Ramona Sladic, Secretary of the Commission, Canada Energy Regulator re Powell River Energy Inc. Application for a 30-year Contract-Specific Electricity Export Licence EH-001-2026 Proceeding - Requests for Intervenor Status** 19 - 23
[Addenda]

7. BUSINESS ARISING FROM CORRESPONDENCE

- 7.1 **Correspondence dated June 10, 2026 from Jen MacLean, Desolation Dive Services Ltd. re Request for Letter of Support: Desolation Dive Services Ltd - Ghost Gear Application**

THAT the Committee recommends to the Board that the Board provide a letter of support for Desolation Dive Services Ltd.'s funding application to Fisheries and Oceans Canada's Ghost Gear Fund; and

THAT the request be elevated to the June 24, 2026 Regional Board meeting to meet the June 29, 2026 funding application deadline.

8. REPORTS

9. NEW BUSINESS

- 9.1 **Submission of the Association of Vancouver Island and Coastal Communities (AVICC) Resolution "Cease Divestment Efforts of Remote Port Facilities" to the Federation of Canadian Municipalities 2026 Fall Board Meeting - Director Fall** 25 - 26

THAT the Committee recommends to the Board that the Board endorse and submit the following resolution for consideration at the Federation of Canadian Municipalities 2026 Fall Board Meeting.

TITLE: Cease Divestment Efforts of Remote Port Facilities

Whereas "remote port facilities" are essential services, defined by Transport Canada as serving isolated communities where marine transportation is the primary mode of transportation;

And whereas Transport Canada has ongoing efforts to divest remote port facilities, simultaneous with commitments to maintain remote ports;

And whereas the remaining remote port facilities across Canada are not conducive to transfer according to Transport Canada's 2020 evaluation of its Port Asset Transfer Program:

Therefore be it resolved that FCM request Transport Canada

and the Federal Government to cease further efforts to divest remote port facilities, and continue the National Marine Strategy commitment to ongoing maintenance of remote port facilities.

9.2 Notice of Motion re BC Transit Improvement Program - *Director Gisborne*

THAT the Committee of the Whole recommend that the Board identify the gap in scheduled service between public transit Route #12 and Route #1 along the Sunshine Coast Highway between Caribou Road and Maris Road as a priority for the qathet Regional District Rural Paratransit Service and that a request be submitted to BC Transit to integrate this service gap into the next annual BC Transit Improvement Program.

10. QUESTION PERIOD

11. IN CAMERA SESSION

11.1 No Proposed Closed Session

12. ADJOURNMENT

13. COMMITTEE MINUTES PACKAGE

13.1 Regional Emergency Executive Committee (REEC) Meeting Minutes - April 29, 2026 27 - 29

13.2 Savary Island Marine Advisory Committee (SIMAC) Meeting Minutes - May 7, 2026 31 - 34

14. FYI

14.1 Council Approves Spring 2026 Community Forest Grant Recipients - Media Release dated May 26, 2026 from the City of Powell River 35



**Committee of the Whole
Minutes**

**May 27, 2026, 1:00 PM
Regional District Boardroom**

Present: Chair, Electoral Area D Sandy McCormick
Director, Electoral Area A Jason Lennox
Director, Electoral Area B Mark Gisborne
Director, Electoral Area C Clayton Brander
Director, Electoral Area E Andrew Fall
Municipal Director Cindy Elliott
Municipal Director Robert Southcott

Staff Present: Michelle Jones, General Manager of Corporate Administration,
Corporate Officer
Patrick Devereaux, General Manager of Operational Services
Ryan Thoms, General Manager of Emergency Services
Julia Dykstra, General Manager of Planning Services
Caleb Allen, Manager of Information Technology
Mikhael Drosdovech, Manager of Assets and Capital Projects
Jason Kouwenhoven, Manager of Environmental Services
Melanie Taylor, Manager of Occupational Health & Safety
Rebecca Coleman, Legislative Services Coordinator

1. CALL TO ORDER

Chair McCormick called the meeting to order at 1:00 pm.

2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

2.1 Committee of the Whole Agenda

Moved and Seconded

THAT the agenda be approved, as presented.

MOTION CARRIED.

3. ADOPTION OF MINUTES

3.1 Minutes of the Committee of the Whole Meeting - April 29, 2026

Moved and Seconded

THAT the minutes of the Committee of the Whole meeting held April 29, 2026 be adopted.

MOTION CARRIED.

4. DELEGATION & INQUIRIES

4.1 Staff Sergeant Lee Dyson, Detachment Commander, Powell River and Texada Island RCMP re RCMP 2025/2026 Q4 Quarterly Reporting

Staff Sergeant Lee Dyson, Detachment Commander, Powell River and Texada Island RCMP presented a detailed report to the Committee regarding fourth quarter statistics for the qathet region and responded to questions from the Committee.

4.2 Unregistered Delegation, Marty Heroux, Treasurer, Q Climbers Access and Development Association re Service Provider Agreement for Liability Insurance

Marty Heroux, Treasurer, Q Climbers Access and Development Association addressed the Committee regarding item *#8.6 Liability Insurance - Q Climbers Access and Development Association*, in support of a Service Provider Agreement for liability insurance coverage for volunteers, and responded to questions from the Committee.

5. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

6. CORRESPONDENCE

6.1 Correspondence dated April 24, 2026 from the BC Municipal Climate Leadership Council (BCMCLC) re Seeking Your Voice on No Renewal of the Local Government Climate Action Program (LGCAP)

6.2 Correspondence dated April 28, 2026 from Dr. Bonnie Henry, Provincial Health Officer, and Josie Osborne, Minister of Health re The Conclusion of BC's Decriminalization Pilot on January 31, 2026

6.3 Correspondence dated May 11, 2026 from qathet Housing Action Table (HAT) to The Honourable David Eby, Premier, Province of British Columbia, The Honourable Ravi Kahlon, Minister of Housing and Municipal Affairs, Randene Neill, Minister of Water, Land and Resource Stewardship, MLA for Powell River - Sunshine Coast, BC, and Housing Leadership, British Columbia Housing Management Commission re Impacts of the 2026 Community Housing Fund Suspension on the qathet Region

- 6.4 **Correspondence dated May 13, 2026 from Cathy Brown, President, Texada Island Non-profit Seniors Housing Society re Request for Waiving Gillies Bay Park Rental Fee**
- 6.5 **Correspondence dated May 13, 2026 from David Eby, Premier, Province of British Columbia re 2026 UBCM Convention**

7. BUSINESS ARISING FROM CORRESPONDENCE

- 7.1 **Correspondence dated April 24, 2026 from the BC Municipal Climate Leadership Council (BCMCLC) re Seeking Your Voice on No Renewal of the Local Government Climate Action Program (LGCAP)**

Moved and Seconded

THAT the Committee recommends to the Board that the Board authorize the Chair to send a letter to the Premier, the Minister of Finance, the Minister of Energy and Climate Solutions, the Minister of Housing and Municipal Affairs, the Minister of Environment and Parks, and the Minister of Emergency Management and Climate Readiness, advocating for renewal and extended funding of the Local Government Climate Action Program, and copying MLA Randene Neill, and also requesting a meeting at the 2026 Union of British Columbia Municipalities (UBCM) Convention with the appropriate Minister(s).

MOTION CARRIED.

- 7.2 **Correspondence dated May 11, 2026 from qathet Housing Action Table (HAT) to The Honourable David Eby, Premier, Province of British Columbia, The Honourable Ravi Kahlon, Minister of Housing and Municipal Affairs, Randene Neill, Minister of Water, Land and Resource Stewardship, MLA for Powell River - Sunshine Coast, BC, and Housing Leadership, British Columbia Housing Management Commission re Impacts of the 2026 Community Housing Fund Suspension on the qathet Region**

Moved and Seconded

THAT the Committee recommends to the Board that the Board add qathet Regional District, member of the qathet Housing Action Table, as a signatory to the collective letter from qathet Housing Action Table regarding the Impacts of the 2026 Community Housing Fund Suspension on the qathet Region; and

THAT the resolution be elevated to the May 27, 2026 Regional Board meeting to meet the May 31, 2026 deadline for the letter.

MOTION CARRIED.

7.3 Correspondence dated May 13, 2026 from Cathy Brown, President, Texada Island Non-profit Seniors Housing Society re Request for Waiving Gillies Bay Park Rental Fee

Moved and Seconded

THAT the Committee recommends to the Board that the Board waive the Gillies Bay ball park rental fee for the Texada Island Non-Profit Seniors Housing Society's Road Rally fundraising event on August 15, 2026.

MOTION CARRIED.

8. REPORTS

8.1 First Quarter 2026 Strategic Plan Progress Report

Moved and Seconded

THAT the Committee recommends to the Board that the Board enter into the minutes and file the report titled First Quarter 2026 Strategic Plan Progress Report dated April 24, 2026.

MOTION CARRIED.

8.2 Texada Island Community Hall - Theatrical Curtain Replacement

Moved and Seconded

THAT the Committee recommends to the Board that the Board direct staff to investigate options and prices for stage curtain and track replacement, and to bring back these options to a future Board meeting.

MOTION CARRIED.

8.3 Texada Island Community Hall - Cellular and Internet Service

Moved and Seconded

THAT the Committee recommends to the Board that the Board direct staff to facilitate the installation of cellular and wifi internet at the Texada Island Community Hall.

MOTION CARRIED.

8.4 Fire Departments Automatic Aid

Moved and Seconded

THAT the Committee recommends to the Board that the Board direct staff to engage with Tla'amin Nation and the City of Powell River regarding potential for an Automatic Aid Agreement among the local fire services in the mainland portion of the qathet Region and report back with findings and recommendations.

MOTION CARRIED.

8.5 Murals and Graffiti Walls

Moved and Seconded

THAT the Committee recommends to the Board that the Board take no action and that the report dated May 27, 2026, titled "Murals and Graffiti Walls", be entered in the minutes and filed.

MOTION CARRIED.

8.6 Liability Insurance - Q Climbers Access and Development Association

Moved and Seconded

THAT the Committee recommends to the Board that the Board approve the qathet Regional District entering into a Service Provider Agreement with the Q Climbers Access and Development Association for the development and management of a network of trails and recreational amenities on land and water which are identified in the qathet Regional District Trails Plan dated December, 2016; and

THAT the agreement continue in perpetuity until it is cancelled by the qathet Regional District; and

THAT the annual cost of the coverage, estimated at \$250, be included in the annual budget for the Regional Parks Service.

MOTION CARRIED.

8.7 Election Procedure Amendment Bylaw No. 420.6, 2026

Moved and Seconded

THAT the Committee recommend the Board accept the changes to "Election Procedure Amendment Bylaw No. 420.6, 2026" as proposed to:

- Change references to "secrecy envelopes" to "secrecy enclosures"; and

THAT the amendment bylaw be presented to the June 9, 2026 meeting for first reading through adoption.

MOTION CARRIED.

8.8 2026 UBCM Convention Attendance and Meetings with Ministers and MACC Staff

Moved and Seconded

THAT the Board direct staff to register interested Directors and the Chief Administrative Officer, or designate, for the Union of British Columbia Municipalities' 2026 Convention being held September 14-18, 2026 in Vancouver, B.C.

MOTION CARRIED.

Moved and Seconded

UBCM Meeting Request with Ministry of Transportation and Transit – *Director Fall*

THAT the Committee recommends to the Board that the Board direct staff to schedule a meeting with the Minister of Transportation and Transit regarding options to ensure contract and operation accountability for the Lasqueti Island ferry route.

MOTION CARRIED.

Moved and Seconded

UBCM Meeting Request regarding Improvement District Policy Update – *Director McCormick*

THAT the Committee recommends to the Board that the Board seek a meeting at UBCM 2026 with Brittny Anderson, Minister of State for Local Governments and Rural Communities and Christine Boyle, Minister of Housing and Municipal Affairs, regarding modernizing the 2006 policy regarding improvement districts access to grants, and to include the Lund Waterworks District as a case study.

MOTION CARRIED.

9. NEW BUSINESS**10. QUESTION PERIOD**

Questions were entertained from the floor.

11. IN CAMERA SESSION**11.1 Proposed Closed Session**

Moved and Seconded

THAT the Committee move in-camera and that the meeting be closed to the public on the grounds that the subject matter to be considered relates to matters covered by the *Community Charter* under section 90(1):

(1) A part of a committee meeting may be closed to the public if the subject matter being considered relates to or is one or more of the following:

(a) personal information about an identifiable individual who holds or is being considered for a position as an officer, employee or agent of the regional district or another position appointed by the regional district; and

(f) law enforcement, if the committee considers that disclosure could reasonably be expected to harm the conduct of an investigation under or enforcement of an enactment; and

(m) a matter that, under another enactment, is such that the public may be excluded from the meeting; and

(n) the consideration of whether a committee meeting should be closed under a provision of this subsection or subsection (2); and

(2) A part of a committee meeting must be closed to the public if the subject matter being considered relates to one or more of the following:

(b) the consideration of information received and held in confidence relating to negotiations

(ii) between the regional district and another local government or between another local government and a third party.

MOTION CARRIED.

The meeting moved in-camera at 2:29 pm.

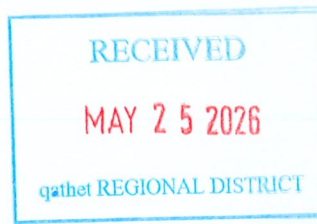
The open meeting resumed at 3:14 pm.

12. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 3:15 pm.

Chair

Corporate Officer



Life Cycle Housing Society
Unit 32, 4949 Ontario Avenue
Powell River, BC V8A 5T7
TELEPHONE (604)485-6006 FAX (604)485-6006
Email: admin@lifeycyclehousing.com

May 21, 2026

qathet Regional District
#202 - 4675 Marine Avenue
Powell River, BC V8A 2L2

Attention: All Directors

Re: Municipal & Regional District Tax Revenues (MRDT)

Non-profit societies are crucial to addressing the need for affordable rental housing for individuals and families with low to moderate annual income. Recently, senior governments have retracted or paused successful programs that were very helpful to increasing the supply of rental housing:

- CMHC has cancelled the grants for geotechnical and financial studies that helped societies determine whether a new development might be viable; and
- the BC government has made major changes to its Community Housing Fund, halting applications already well along in the approval process and ceasing to accept any new applications, thus throwing the non profit housing sector off track.

Under provincial regulation, the Sunshine Coast Tourism Association gives the qRD a portion of taxes paid by on-line rental accommodation platforms – about \$100,000 annually - to be used in addressing local needs related to affordable housing. The qRD has, for the past 5 years or so, sole-source awarded this money to Powell River Education Services Society (PRESS). The regional board has recently approved a motion asking staff to provide a report on options for allocation of that revenue, and inform the Sunshine Coast Tourism to put hold on current revenues from the MRDT revenues.

Given recent reduced funding from upper levels of government for affordable, rental housing, and the continuing unmet need in the region for housing for very-low and low-incomes households, our society asks the Board to reconsider its decision. We also respectfully suggest that this revenue be awarded to local non-profit societies who provide permanent housing options. The money should be awarded on application and directed replacing the recently canceled programs referred to above, or for important renovations to maintain current units. Doing this could help to retain existing housing in good repair or help us plan for new projects

The qRD has access to significant funds to improve the local housing situation, and the decision-making authority to support societies that have been working in that field for many years. Instead of putting a hold on this money for one or two years, you could be making a real difference in our region.

Sincerely,

Pat Christie, Secretary
Life Cycle Housing Society

Copies to: Sunset Homes Society
Kiwanis Housing Society

qRD Administration

From: Ryan Kolba [REDACTED]
Sent: Wednesday, June 3, 2026 10:42 PM
To: qRD Administration
Subject: qRD Board members - BC Ferries Westview Terminal Motorcycle Access Issue

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

⚠ CAUTION: This email originated from an external sender. Verify the source before responding to the email or opening links or attachments. ⚠

Dear qathet Board Members,

I am requesting that the qRD board consider advocating to BC Ferries and the Ministry of Transportation regarding an ongoing transportation access issue affecting residents who rely on motorcycle travel on the Powell River–Comox route (Westview–Little River).

Motorcycle riders are currently unable to reserve sailings on this route and are therefore dependent on standby access. During peak travel periods, vehicle queues at the Westview terminal regularly back up to Courtenay Street, preventing motorcycles from physically accessing the terminal to pay and enter the staging area. As a result, motorcycles are effectively excluded from the standby system during busy sailings.

BC Ferries has advised that motorcycle reservations are planned for implementation later this year. However, the current operational structure, combined with a transition toward approximately 85% reservation capacity, leaves motorcycle riders without a reliable mechanism to access remaining standby space in the interim.

This creates a recurring access barrier to a critical transportation service for coastal residents.

I am requesting that Council consider advocating for:

- A review of Westview terminal operations to ensure motorcycles can reliably access the standby queue during peak congestion
- Interim operational measures to prevent motorcycles from being blocked by queued vehicle traffic
- Assurance that motorcycle access is protected during the transition to a high-reservation model prior to the implementation of motorcycle reservations

Thank you for your consideration of this matter affecting regional transportation access.

Sincerely,
Ryan Kolba

From: [Jen MacLean](#)
To: [gRD Administration](#)
Subject: Request for Letter of Support: Desolation Dive Services Ltd - Ghost Gear Application
Attachments: [gRD - Letter of Support - Ghost Gear Appliaiton - Desolation Dive Services.pdf](#)
Sent: 6/10/2026 10:46:58 PM

⚠CAUTION: This email originated from an external sender. Verify the source before responding to the email or opening links or attachments. ⚠

Dear Chair and Members of the Committee,

I hope this email finds you well.

Desolation Dive Services Ltd., a commercial diving company operating out of Lund, BC, is **preparing an application to Fisheries and Oceans Canada's Ghost Gear Fund**, with applications due June 29, 2026.

Our proposed project focuses on the removal of abandoned aquaculture debris and other marine debris that has accumulated on the seafloor over time in areas of Okeover Inlet, Cortes Island and Quadra Island. Through previous survey work, we have identified locations where abandoned gear and debris are impacting the marine environment. In the area of Okeover we have initiated discussions with the Tla'amin Nation regarding this initiative, which they have given their support of, and we are inviting their feedback and recommendations on priority sites and areas of concern. Our goal is to recover and properly dispose of this material for the benefit of local aquatic species, marine habitats, Indigenous communities, and the broader community.

We are respectfully requesting the members of the committee consider granting us **a letter of support** from the qathet Regional District for inclusion in our funding application for the Okover area. We understand there is an upcoming meeting where this request may be presented.

To assist with timelines and administrative efficiency, we have attached a draft letter of support for your consideration. The draft is provided only as a starting point and may be revised or amended as desired. Alternatively, **if the Regional District would prefer to prepare its own letter**, we would be grateful for any form of support that the Committee or Board feels appropriate.

Thank you for your consideration of this request. We would be pleased to provide any additional information regarding the project or the funding application.

Sincerely,

Jen MacLean
Desolation Dive Services Ltd.
desolationdiveservices.ca

778.960.8432

June 10, 2026

To Whom It May Concern:

RE: Letter of Support for Desolation Dive Services Ltd. – Fisheries and Oceans Canada Ghost Gear Fund Application

The qathet Regional District is pleased to provide this letter of support for Desolation Dive Services Ltd. and its application to Fisheries and Oceans Canada's Ghost Gear Fund.

Desolation Dive Services is proposing a project to identify, recover, and responsibly dispose of abandoned aquaculture debris and other marine debris located in Okeover Inlet and surrounding coastal waters. The project aligns with the objectives of the Ghost Gear Fund by supporting the removal of marine debris from coastal waters, protecting fish habitat and marine ecosystems, reducing the impacts of ghost fishing, promoting the responsible recovery and disposal of recovered materials, and supporting innovative methods and technologies that improve the prevention, detection, and recovery of lost gear.

The Regional District recognizes the importance of maintaining healthy marine environments that support local communities, Indigenous Nations, recreation, tourism, fisheries, and aquatic ecosystems. We understand that Desolation Dive Services has initiated discussions with the Tla'amin Nation regarding this project and is seeking Indigenous feedback and recommendations on priority areas and sites of concern that could benefit from marine debris and ghost gear removal activities. The proposed work will contribute to the long-term stewardship of local marine resources and help improve environmental conditions within the qathet region.

The qathet Regional District supports Desolation Dive Services' efforts to secure funding for this important initiative and believes the proposed project will provide meaningful environmental, ecological, and community benefits throughout the region.

Sincerely,

Chair

qathet Regional District



Canada Energy
Regulator

Régie de l'énergie
du Canada

Suite 210
517 Tenth Avenue SW
Calgary, Alberta
T2R 0A8

517, Dixième Avenue S.-O.
bureau 210
Calgary (Alberta)
T2R 0A8

File 6503001
9 June 2026

To: All parties to the EH-001-2026 proceeding

Powell River Energy Inc.

**Application for a 30-year contract-specific electricity export licence
EH-001-2026 proceeding**

**Ruling No. 3 – Requests for intervenor status from Energy Democracy for BC,
the Townsite Ratepayers Society, and the qathet Regional District**

**Procedural Update No. 2 – Deadline for additional requests for intervenor
status, and timing and location for the oral portion of the licensing procedure**

**Before: M. Chartier, Presiding Commissioner; S. Sajnovics, Commissioner;
J.-D. Charlebois, Commissioner**

1. Overview

For the reasons set out below, the Commission of the Canada Energy Regulator grants intervenor status in this licensing procedure to Energy Democracy for BC, the Townsite Ratepayers Society, and the qathet Regional District.

In the event that anyone wishes to seek intervenor status in this licensing procedure, the Commission sets a deadline of **16 June 2026** to file such requests. As stated previously in Procedural Update No. 1 ([C38853](#)), the Commission will consider all letters of comment already filed. It is not necessary for anyone who filed them to request intervenor status. Being an intervenor in a Commission proceeding carries with it responsibilities such as accepting and providing service of all subsequent filings, filing written evidence and supporting affidavits, and answering questions about their evidence from other parties.

The Commission has also decided to hold the oral portion of this licensing procedure during the week of 16-20 November 2026 in Powell River, British Columbia.

2. Background

On 10 April 2026, the Commission issued Procedural Update No. 1 establishing the licensing procedure to consider Powell River Energy Inc.'s (**PREI**) 15 August 2025 electricity export application ([C35954](#)) [**Application**]. In Procedural Update No. 1, the Commission established the List of Issues that it would consider in its assessment and granted intervenor status to four parties, three of whom later confirmed their participation. The Commission also indicated that for any future request for intervenor status, it would assess both the justification provided and the extent to which the requester's participation may assist the Commission in evaluating the Application in the context of the List of Issues.

.../2

On 7, 12, and 14 May 2026, respectively, Energy Democracy for BC ([C39268](#)), the Townsite Ratepayers Society ([C39309](#)), and the qathet Regional District ([C39349](#)) filed requests for intervenor status (**collectively, the Requesters**).

On 15 May 2026, the Commission invited ([C39365](#)) the Requesters to provide additional information, if any, about their respective potential contributions to the licensing procedure, including how they might assist the Commission in assessing the Application. PREI was invited to comment on the requests, while the Requesters could file reply comments.

Energy Democracy for BC ([C39434](#)) and the Townsite Ratepayers Society ([C39428](#)) filed additional information. PREI filed comments ([C39479](#)) regarding all three requests. None of the Requesters filed reply comments.

3. Summary of the parties' submissions

Energy Democracy for BC

Energy Democracy for BC stated that it was founded to see community benefits from the dams in the area and that it can offer evidence-based insights while representing the interests of its members and the broader public. In particular, Energy Democracy for BC indicated that it could contribute to Issue 2 (the appropriate conditions of a licence, if issued) under the List of Issues.

Regarding Issue 2a) (the duration of the licence) and Issue 2d) (conditions under which the licence holder must curtail or interrupt the exportation), Energy Democracy for BC said that it would contribute an analysis of how a 30-year licence would conflict with federal government policy. Conflicts pertain to Canada's goals relating to climate and electrification, using domestic electricity resources as a competitive advantage in developing Canadian data centres, job creation for the electricity sector, and strengthening east-west trade. Energy Democracy for BC would also raise concerns about impacts on Canadian ratepayers.

Regarding Issue 2b) (requirements relating to the opportunities for Canadians to purchase the electricity proposed to be exported from Canada), Energy Democracy for BC said that it would provide evidence or raise concerns about the existing environmental impacts of PREI's operations and how the proposed export would worsen them, including if the power is used for data centres. It would also question PREI on the lack of environmental protection measures in its Application, and on the company's plans to address climate change effects.

Townsite Ratepayers Society

The Townsite Ratepayers Society stated that it represents resident taxpayers in Powell River. It is concerned about PREI's current exportation supporting jobs and taxes in a foreign country, without providing community benefits and fair taxation revenue to locals, and that a 30-year licence would have negative consequences for the local and provincial economy for that period. It also contends that the search for a fair market purchaser of PREI's hydro power was incomplete. The Townsite Ratepayers Society has concerns about environmental impacts in the region and those effects compromising an evolving climate change strategy, as well as safety in the neighbourhood.

qathet Regional District

The qathet Regional District stated that it is a local government authority responsible for regional economic development, service coordination, and infrastructure planning within the

area surrounding the municipality in which PREI's generating facilities are located. It submitted that losing the mill's long-standing domestic industrial load represents a material change in circumstances that is directly relevant to the Commission's assessment of fair market access for Canadian consumption and the appropriateness of any licence conditions.

As elaborated upon in its request, the Regional District indicated that it can provide evidence and a regional-level perspective relevant to whether PREI has adequately informed and provided meaningful opportunity to Canadian purchasers. It also has a direct interest in, and can contribute evidence and submissions regarding, each of the sub-issues under Issue 2 (the appropriate conditions of a licence, if issued). The Regional District highlighted the importance of licence conditions that preserve adaptability and responsiveness to material changes in Canadian circumstances.

The Regional District submitted that its participation would be distinct from the host municipality, Indigenous Nations, and utilities. It would provide regional economic and infrastructure perspectives not otherwise before the Commission and it would make submissions that are directly relevant to the statutory issues the Commission must determine under the *Canadian Energy Regulator Act (CER Act)*.

PREI

PREI submitted that none of the Requesters has demonstrated any basis that supports granting them intervenor status. It argued that the Requesters' submissions mostly repeat comments from their previous letters of comment in October 2025. The Commission already reviewed those comments and found that they did not establish a basis for intervenor status because their interests were beyond the scope of the Canada Energy Regulator's jurisdiction and the Commission's decision-making criteria for its review of the Application. PREI submitted that any new comments are similar in nature and also fall outside of the scope of the CER Act jurisdiction.

PREI stated that the Commission's review focuses on the decision criteria in subsection 361(2) of the CER Act. None of the Requesters demonstrated an intention to purchase PREI's electricity or that they are eligible and have the transmission capacity to do so. Both elements are essential to establish standing to comment on fair market access and to support intervenor status. PREI also pointed to Procedural Update No. 1 where the Commission stated that it would not consider concerns raised about dam operations and any associated impacts, which are under the jurisdiction of the Province of British Columbia. This approach is consistent with the Supreme Court of Canada's direction that federal legislation must be consistently focused on federal matters. PREI argued that these particular interests raised by the Requesters are clearly beyond the scope of the Commission's mandate for its review of this Application.

4. Commission analysis and findings

The Commission has discretion in deciding on requests for intervenor status, subject to the requirements of procedural fairness. In Procedural Update No. 1, the Commission indicated that in deciding such future requests, it would consider the requester's justification and how their participation may assist the Commission in assessing the Application in the context of the List of Issues. After considering the parties' submissions on the current requests, and the mandate and purpose of each requesting organization, the Commission grants intervenor status to each of the Requesters because they have persuaded the Commission that they may contribute to its assessment of the Application with respect to Issue 2 (the appropriate conditions of a licence, if issued).

The Commission is of the view that the Requesters may provide submissions rooted in a perspective that is unique from the current intervenors. In addition, the Commission notes that each of the Requesters is an organization or representative group. The participation of representative groups can be an efficient way to bring regional perspectives into this licensing procedure. The Commission also finds that there would be little to no prejudice to PREI or other intervenors in granting the three Requesters intervenor status at this point in the proceeding.

5. The List of Issues and the Commission's mandate under the CER Act

While the Commission has decided to grant intervenor status to the Requesters, it observes that the Requesters made many submissions that were beyond the scope of the List of Issues and the Commission's mandate under the CER Act. The Commission may not consider or give weight to any submissions (including evidence and argument) by the parties that do not relate to the limited List of Issues established for this proceeding.

In particular, all three Requesters raised environmental implications related to PREI's dam operations, or the Application generally. As the Commission has noted in several instances on this proceeding's record, it will not consider any impacts stemming from the operation of PREI's generating facilities. The Commission does not have jurisdiction over those facilities, which are already operating and exporting power. Approval of the Application is neither required nor necessary for PREI to continue generating electricity from those facilities, within the operational and environmental parameters that are in place or may be imposed under the laws of British Columbia.

Energy Democracy for BC referenced paragraph 9(o) of the *National Energy Board Electricity Regulations (Electricity Regulations)*, which states:

9 An application for a permit for the exportation of electricity, other than for a border accommodation transfer, shall contain the following information, unless the Board advises the applicant that the information is already in the possession of the Board or that the information is not relevant to the application:

[...]

(o) the adverse environmental effects resulting from the proposed exportation of electricity, and the measures to be taken to mitigate any of those environmental effects;

[...]

The Commission must interpret and apply the Electricity Regulations in conjunction with their enabling legislation. The Electricity Regulations were last updated in 1999, under the *National Energy Board Act*, which at the time allowed for consideration of environmental issues on electricity export applications. In 2012,¹ Parliament removed from that Act the impacts of exportation on the environment as a criterion for electricity export applications. This criterion remains absent from the CER Act, which was enacted in 2019. This means that references to environmental considerations in the Electricity Regulations – such as in

¹ *Jobs, Growth and Long-term Prosperity Act*, SC 2012 c 19 ss 94-96.

paragraphs 9(n), 9(o), and 10(k) – no longer apply.² The Electricity Memorandum of Guidance was updated in 2012³ to clarify these effects of the legislative changes.

6. Administrative and procedural matters

The List of Parties ([C38958-2](#)) has been updated online to include Energy Democracy for BC, the Townsite Ratepayers Society, and the qathet Regional District, using the contact information provided in their requests. The Requesters should review their respective information and notify the Regulatory Officers at regulatory.officers@cer-rec.gc.ca if any changes are needed. This includes naming any additional representatives who require document service in this licensing procedure.

To provide additional procedural certainty and efficiency, the Commission sets a deadline of **16 June 2026** for any additional requests for intervenor status. In setting this deadline, the Commission considered that potential requesters have had sufficient time to apply since Procedural Update No. 1 was issued, and substantive steps in the licensing procedure (once resumed) are imminent. As stated in Procedural Update No. 1, if any such requests are received, the Commission will consider their justification and how their participation may assist the Commission in assessing the Application in the context of the List of Issues before deciding on the requests. If the Commission grants intervenor status to any additional party, it will generally limit that party's participation to the process steps that remain at that time.

The Commission also wishes to update and advise the parties that it has decided to hold the oral portion of this licensing procedure during **the week of 16-20 November 2026** in Powell River, British Columbia. The Commission will communicate all necessary details about the oral portion in a future procedural update.

As the Commission communicated in its 1 June 2026 letter ([C39588](#)), all procedural steps in this proceeding remain suspended until the Commission issues its decision on BC Hydro's 29 May 2026 motion related to PREI's supplemental written evidence ([C39573](#)).

For process questions, please contact a Process Advisor by phone at 1-800-899-1265 or by email at powellriverhelp@cer-rec.gc.ca.

Yours sincerely,

Signed by

Ramona Sladic
Secretary of the Commission

c.c. Peter DeJong, City of Powell River, Email info@cdpr.bc.ca

² The Electricity Regulations are currently being updated to reflect this legislative change. For more information, see the CER's Forward Regulatory Plan at <https://www.cer-rec.gc.ca/en/about/acts-regulations/forward-regulatory-plan/index.html>. Also see the Government of Canada's 14 December 2024 update on the export and import regulatory framework (Canada Gazette, Part I, Volume 158, Number 50: Export Applications [Licences and Permits] Regulations) at <https://gazette.gc.ca/rp-pr/p1/2024/2024-12-14/html/reg1-eng.html>.

³ Found online at <https://www.cer-rec.gc.ca/en/about/acts-regulations/cer-act-regulations-guidance-notes-related-documents/electricity-export-applications/mndngmq-eng.pdf>.

TITLE: Cease Divestment Efforts of Remote Port Facilities

Whereas “remote port facilities” are essential services, defined by Transport Canada as serving isolated communities where marine transportation is the primary mode of transportation;

And whereas Transport Canada has ongoing efforts to divest remote port facilities, simultaneous with commitments to maintain remote ports;

And whereas the remaining remote port facilities across Canada are not conducive to transfer according to Transport Canada’s 2020 evaluation of its Port Asset Transfer Program:

Therefore be it resolved that FCM request Transport Canada and the Federal Government to cease further efforts to divest remote port facilities, and continue the National Marine Strategy commitment to ongoing maintenance of remote port facilities.

BACKGROUND RATIONALE

Transport Canada owns and manages a number of wharf and port facilities across Canada, and defines some as “*remote port facilities*” if they provide the primary access point to communities (including ferry-dependent communities). Eight such facilities in Coastal BC are included in Transport Canada’s list of remote port facilities, and one in qathet Regional District (False Bay Wharf on Lasqueti Island). Only 19 such remote ports remain across Canada, with eight in BC and ten in Quebec.

<https://tc.canada.ca/en/marine-transportation/ports-harbours-anchorages/list-ports-owned-transport-canada>

Transport Canada has made ongoing efforts to divest many federal wharves, and in some cases to close or demolish facilities. The Port Divestiture Program (PDP) transferred or removed 499 out of the inventory of 549 at the start of the program (over 90%). The Port Asset Transfer Program (PATP) started in 2015 as a successor to the PDP, and included more incentives to divest the remaining 50 ports “*that were inherently more challenging to transfer*”. By 2020, the PATP transferred or sold 12 ports, and demolished 3 ports (leaving 35 in the inventory).

According to a 2020 Evaluation of the PATP by Transport Canada:

- “*Given these ports’ attributes made it challenging to attract interested stakeholders*”;
- “*Many of the ports that the PATP inherited faced decades-old issues that were not conducive to transfer.*”; and
- “*Given the challenges associated with the remaining ports, there is also recognition that a number of them will continue to remain in TC’s inventory for the foreseeable future.*”

However, the 2020 PATP Evaluation also states:

- *“Under the PATP, there is no explicit differentiation between remote ports and regional/local ports; the program allows for closures and demolitions of any remaining facility where there was no acquisition interest and there was no strategic value to ongoing port operations.”*

Further, the divestment efforts of Transport Canada continue despite the Port Asset Transfer Program apparently being renewed until 2022 with a focus on 3 ports only.

<https://tc.canada.ca/en/corporate-services/transparency/corporate-management-reporting/evaluation-ports-asset-transfer-program>

The 1996 National Marine Policy included an objective to *“Continue the Government of Canada's commitment to safe transportation, a clean environment, service to designated remote communities...”* and *“Remote ports were to remain under Transport Canada unless local groups expressed an interest in acquiring them.”*

<https://publications.gc.ca/collections/Collection/T22-120-2003E.pdf>

Although Transport Canada has indicated a commitment to maintain remote port facilities, continued efforts to divest remote port facilities causes uncertainty in remote communities.

<https://tc.canada.ca/en/programs/funding-programs/ports-asset-transfer-program/list-ports-under-patp>

The ongoing efforts by Transport Canada to divest remote port facilities causes unnecessary uncertainty on affected communities. The lack of divestment to date indicates a low likelihood of a viable transfer for the reasons articulated in the 2020 PATP Evaluation by Transport Canada. Given the high cost of such facilities (which should be considered as part of the public highway system), transfers to parties that do not have taxation authority may lead those parties to seek divestment after only a few years. This may lead to regional or local governments becoming the *“owner of last resort”*, effectively downloading costs onto small communities that cannot afford it.

Transport Canada should consider its efforts to divest remote ports a success, and end any further efforts (except in cases where a remote port facility no longer meets the definition).

**qathet Regional Emergency Program
Regional Emergency Executive Committee Meeting
MINUTES**

Wednesday, April 29, 2026 at 11:00 AM
Regional District Board Room

Present: Director Sandy McCormick, Chair
Director Clay Brander, qathet Regional District Chair
Councillor Robert Southcott, City of Powell River
Hegus John Hackett, Tla'amin Nation

Regrets Mayor Ron Woznow, City of Powell River
Councillor Callum Galligos, Tla'amin Nation

Staff Present: Al Radke, Chief Administrative Officer, qathet Regional District
Sundance Topham, Chief Administrative Officer, City of Powell River
Russell Brewer, Chief Administrative Officer, Tla'amin Nation
Michelle Jones, Corporate Officer, qathet Regional District
Ryan Thoms, General Manager of Emergency Services, qathet Regional District
Martin Drakeley, Fire Chief, City of Powell River
Byron Harry, Fire Chief, Tla'amin Nation
Linzy Elliott, Deputy Fire Chief, Tla'amin Nation
Rosi Temple, Fire Services Clerk, Recording Secretary, qathet Regional District

1. CALL TO ORDER

Ryan Thoms, General Manager of Emergency Services called the meeting to order at 11:05 am.

2. ELECTION OF THE CHAIR

Michelle Jones, Corporate Officer, called for nominations for the position of Chair of the Regional Emergency Executive Committee for the term one year.

The Corporate Officer called a first time for nominations;

- Director Brander nominated Director McCormick.

The Corporate Officer called a second time for further nominations;

The Corporate Officer called a third and final time for further nominations.

There being no further nominations, the Corporate Officer declared Director McCormick elected Chair by acclamation.

Director McCormick assumed the Chair to conduct the remaining items of business.

3. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

3.1 Regional Emergency Executive Committee Agenda

Moved and Seconded

THAT the agenda be approved, as presented.

MOTION CARRIED.

4. ADOPTION OF MINUTES

4.1 Regional Emergency Executive Committee Meeting Minutes - September 11, 2025

Moved and Seconded

THAT the minutes of the Regular Board meeting held September 11, 2025 be adopted.

MOTION CARRIED.

5. DELEGATION & INQUIRIES

6. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

7. CORRESPONDENCE

8. ITEMS OF BUSINESS

8.1 qathet Regional Emergency Assistance Agreement Renewal

Moved and Seconded

THAT the Committee refer the qathet Regional Emergency Assistance Agreement Renewal to the City of Powell River and Tla'amin Nation for staff review to be completed by June 1, 2026 and that the item be brought back to a special REEC meeting.

MOTION CARRIED.

8.2 qathet Regional Fire Departments’ Emergency Services Agreement

Moved and Seconded

THAT the Committee recommend to the Board that the Board endorse the renewal of the qathet Regional Fire Departments’ Emergency Services Agreement, as presented, for another five-year term.

MOTION CARRIED.

9. QUESTION PERIOD

10. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 11:41 am.

Chair

qathet Regional District Staff



**Savary Island Marine Advisory Committee
Minutes**

**May 7, 2026
Virtual**

Present: Rick Shanaman, Chair
Bryan Miles
Donald Palfrey
Doug Smith
Peter Chettleburgh

Regrets: Dan Orlando

Others Present: Jason Lennox, Director, Electoral Area A
Patrick Devereaux, General Manager of Operational Services
Caroline Visser, Operational & Cemetery Services Clerk
Michel Latendresse, Savary Island Volunteer Fire Department

1. CALL TO ORDER

Chair Shanaman called the meeting to order at 10:00am.

2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

The following amendments to the agenda were proposed:

- Move Item 6.6 to the start of the Items of Business

Moved and Seconded

THAT the agenda be approved as amended.

MOTION CARRIED.

3. ADOPTION OF MINUTES

3.1. Minutes of the February 5, 2026 meeting.

Moved and Seconded

THAT the minutes of the February 5, 2026 Savary Island Marine Advisory Committee meeting be adopted.

MOTION CARRIED.

4. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

4.1. Upper Parking Lot Parking - D. Orlando

Chair Shanaman spoke to this item in D. Orlando's absence. The parklett will be mowed once more this week, and work on the fence is scheduled; waiting on delivery of parts.

It was noted that the trailer with graffiti on it in the upper lot has been tagged, and will be removed on Saturday.

4.2. Long-Term Tenures Update - P. Devereaux

P. Devereaux reported that the Board will send a letter to the MOTT and RCMP asking for enforcement of parking around the dock.

D. Smith recounted a recent "recon" visit by the RCMP and MOTT regarding vehicle insurance and parking enforcement.

M. Latendresse spoke to the issue of the restrictive path for the fire department vehicles and the ambulance, with the worse case scenario of pushing/forcing parked cars out of the way with emergency vehicles in situations of life and death or safety.

It was recommended that the Fire Department call 9/11 to make the complaint on the spot in every instance of the road being blocked during fire practices, attempt to transport a patient, or any other emergency.

4.3. Fire Hydrant Initiative - P. Devereaux

All materials for the project have been purchased and are stored at the works yard. Based on the test holes, the archeologist indicated that extra testing would be required to dig the trenching. The updated change order from the archeologist almost tripled their quote, which places the current project outside of the approved budget. The job has subsequently been put on hold.

5. CORRESPONDENCE

None.

6. ITEMS OF BUSINESS

6.1. Wharfinger Report - D. Orlando

- **February 2026 Wharfinger Inspection**
- **March 2026 Wharfinger Inspection**
- **April 2026 Wharfinger Inspection**

D. Orlando was not present.

6.2. **Summer Maintenance**

R. Shanaman indicated he would be in contact with D. Orlando regarding requirements. Jobs discussed:

- regular painting
- banging down nail heads
- can we do anything about the pigeon poop?
- putting bucket on the dock to wash down otter poop is much appreciated!
- weeds growing up through the expanded metal
- truck dollies need replacing (P. Devereaux will arrange)

M. Latendresse left the meeting at 11:06am.

6.3. **May Long Weekend Prep**

The shed will need to be locked up starting this weekend. Committee members were reminded to let everyone know to call 9/11 for any issues to ensure it is logged by the RCMP. P. Devereaux will reach out to S/Sgt Dyson to remind him of their intention to have an RCMP presence on the dock on the Friday of the May long weekend; there are a few hundred young people expected, and there is already a fire ban.

6.4. **Parklett Fence**

Discussed above at item 4.1.

6.5. **Pilings with Holes**

A number of Committee members noted that there were a number of non-weight-supporting pilings with holes in them. P. Devereaux noted that there was a four year cycle for inspections, and an eight year cycle for major repairs. These pilings will be caught in the next inspection/repair cycle and, if required, replaced.

6.6. **Alternative Location for Wharf Hydrant**

D. Smith presented an alternate location for the hydrant. This new location requires no digging. Discussion ensued, and the Committee agreed to the alternate location.

P. Devereaux will speak with R. Thoms, General Manager of Emergency Services and the Savary Island Volunteer Fire Department Chief before moving forward. It is anticipated that this work could move forward in October or November of this year and will take approximately three days to complete.

7. **NEXT MEETING**

The next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, September 10, 2026 at 10:00am on Zoom.

8. **QUESTION PERIOD**

There were no questions.

9. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 11:19am.

Rick Shanaman, Chair

Patrick Devereaux, General
Manager of Operational Services



May 26, 2026

Council Approves Spring 2026 Community Forest Grant Recipients

At its May 21, 2026 meeting, the City of Powell River Council finalized its decisions regarding the Spring 2026 Powell River Community Forest (PRCF) reserve grants for community organizations.

A complete list of approved recipients and projects follows:

Organization	Project Description	Amount
Texada Arts, Culture and Tourism Society	Texada Island Festival Stage refresh	\$937.00
Powell River Farmers’ Agricultural Institute	Concrete floor for Quonset Hut A	\$46,374.00
Powell River Educational Services Society	Nanton Lake to Ireland Lake portage enhancements	\$25,007.00
Life Cycle Housing Society	Ontario Avenue boundary fence	\$35,000.00
Top Out Climbing Co-op	New bouldering mats	\$53,491.68
qathet Climbers Access and Development Association	Rock climbing anchor hardware	\$10,000.00
Royal Canadian Legion Branch #164	Lower Hall flooring replacement	\$20,000.00
Powell River Track and Field Club	New high-jump mats and moveable mat shelter	\$49,319.00
Skookum Food Provisioners Co-op	Purchase of furniture and sound system for Central Farmers’ Market	\$3,200.00
Powell River Rod and Gun Club	Shotgun range ground cover replacement	\$9,200.00
PRISMA	Arts & Culture Hub	\$31,273.00
BC Conservation Foundation	Upgrades to Cannery Bay Kelp Nursery	\$21,035.00
Total		\$304,836.68

Representatives from the organizations have been invited to attend the June 4, 2026 Council meeting, to be held at 7:00pm in Council Chambers at City Hall, so that their projects and ongoing contributions to our community can be recognized and celebrated. Representatives of the Powell River Community Forest Board of Directors will also be in attendance to present the 2025 dividend to the City.

The next intake for community forest grant applications will take place in Fall 2026. Further details, including the application deadline, will be available in June.

Established in 2006, Powell River Community Forest is a forestry company fully owned by the City of Powell River as its sole shareholder. PRCF generates significant dividends that support City projects as well as many local non-profit organizations. Since inception, \$13.8 million has been granted to local non-profit organizations, and \$16.2 million has been spent, committed or saved by the City for projects that benefit the entire community.

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