

Uchucklesaht Tribe Peoples Assembly March 14, 2015

Uchucklesaht Tribe People's Assembly

March 14, 2015

Lawn Bowling Hall

Port Alberni, BC

Attendance:

Chief Councillor Charlie Cootes

Dorothy Cootes

Thomas Rush

Lorraine Cootes

Randall Ginger

Ericka Laing

Carla Halvorsen

James Cootes

Wilfred Cootes Jr.

Gina Laing

Austyn Snoek

Steve Rush

Sabrina Crowley

Chase Crowley

Clifford Charles

Joseph Ginger

Sharon Styan Sr.

Martin Sam

Guests: Mike Watts – Audio/Video, Monty Horton – Director of Lands and Resources, Scott Coulson – Chair/Facilitator

Call to Order: Scott Coulson

Prayer: Chief Councillor Charlie Cootes

Adoption of Agenda:

Motion #01: Agenda adopted for the day as presented.

Moved: Thomas Rush

Seconded: Clifford Charles

(All in Favour-16)

Motion Carried

Uchucklesaht Tribe Draft Budget:

Review of Administration, Numerous Departments, Council, Citizenship & Enrolment, Education Services all reviewed.

Marine Transportation:

Low Rider boat will now be relocated to Port Alberni as the base location in order to save on fuel costs.

Question: How far does this road to the village go?

Uchucklesaht Tribe Peoples Assembly March 14, 2015

Answer: It now goes all the way into the village. There is also a gate but residents all get keys and if you want a key, then we can give you one so that you can go into the village. You just need to stop in the office to get one.

Question: What is the cost difference to keep the boat in Port Alberni? Is there an additional moorage cost?

Answer: No, Uchucklesaht already pays a moorage cost for the boat to have a spot here in Port Alberni. There would be no cost increase to moorage costs.

Question: The road to the village is very rough and not everyone has an automobile that could handle a road like that. Would Uchucklesaht consider providing transportation on that rough road?

Answer: Uchucklesaht has been asked to upgrade the Canal Main portion of the road but that upkeep is actually the responsibility of Western Forest Products. It is very hard and it is limiting for people to travel on a road like that. Uchucklesaht will do their best to maintain portions of the road they are responsible for. There will still be the village charter runs twice per month which will help people get into and out of the village.

Comment: Just to clarify, there will actually only be one village run in and out of the village because the other run you mentioned would only be for people on social assistance. Since there are no people on social assistance in the village – the tribe is only providing the one village run per month until someone is actually on social assistance.

Reply: Correct, there is at this time one village community run per month. There are no social assistance village runs.

Question: Has the Uchucklesaht Tribe pushed the governments to decrease the fuel taxes that Uchucklesaht is enduring so that the fuel prices can be cheaper for Uchucklesaht?

Answer: No, Uchucklesaht has not done that.

Question: Have you considered other options? The boat being in the village was good to have there in the case of emergencies in the village.

Uchucklesaht Tribe Peoples Assembly March 14, 2015

Answer: If there is an emergency in the village area then a coast guard should be called, then attempts to reach a float plane, and so on. The road would have to be attempted to be used to get out in an emergency as a last resort. The Low Rider boat will be based out of Port Alberni as of April 1st so will no longer be available.

Question: There must be other quicker options to get out in the case of an emergency....could there be a space made available for a helicopter to land in the village?

Answer: Yes, a helicopter can access the village at the top where an administration building was planned up by the Hydro station. I have flown into the village by helicopter before.

Question: Who will ensure the road maintenances are kept up?

Answer: The Uchucklesaht road into the village will be kept up by Uchucklesaht. When Uchucklesaht does haul wood out, then they will contribute to upkeep of the Henderson Main line portion. Uchucklesaht is not responsible for any other road maintenance. Uchucklesaht graded some portions of road but is not responsible for all other road upkeep.

Question: What fuel prices are you using right now? What are the fuel prices?

Answer: I used an estimated price of \$1.45 – prices go up all the time. Fuel is the big cost and it is around \$400 in fuel being used per run.

Health Services:

Question: What medications and supplies are available to Uchucklesaht enrollees?

Answer: The Director of Human Services is doing up a two paged overview of all services available through that department for the membership. That information should be ready and out by the end of April.

Social Development, Family and Child Services, Medical Travel all reviewed.

Question: If there are children in Nanaimo, are they eligible for swim tickets for that pool facility?

Answer: Yes, they would have to go through the Human Services Department.

Uchucklesaht Tribe Peoples Assembly March 14, 2015

Question: Did Uchucklesaht Tribe Culture and Heritage Department receive the \$3000 Residential School Credits that Sharon Styan Sr. donated?

Answer: Not sure, but will follow up with the Director of Human Services to find out.

Comment: Uchucklesaht Tribe could learn how to make drums.

Answer: Yes, we will let Charlotte know that there may be some Uchucklesaht Enrollees that know about drum-making.

Village Operations:

Question: Who is cleaning up Gina Laing's burned down house?

Answer: Uchucklesaht Tribe is helping Gina come up with a clean-up plan for that site.

Water Testing:

Question: Are any unoccupied homes getting their water tested?

Answer: Yes, the water is tested along the whole village in the different areas. Water gets tested regularly every month.

The Uchucklesaht Picnic this year will be at the Henderson Lake Lodge in July 2015.

The Henderson Lake Lodge will have solar panels installed. There is a funding grant that would cover the solar panel costs.

Motion #02: Uchucklesaht Peoples Assembly agrees to break for 15 minutes.

(All in Favor – 16)

Motion Carried

Treaty Right Fisheries:

Question: Will the Uchucklesaht Tribe purchase a vacuum packer for packaging food fish?

Answer: Yes, actually Uchucklesaht is looking a purchasing a commercial vacuum packer in the future.

Uchucklesaht Tribe Peoples Assembly March 14, 2015

Question: I am interested in oysters.

Reply: If Uchucklesaht has enough people interested in oysters, then that food fishery could be possible in the future.

Question: Would Uchucklesaht consider activating the Henderson Hatchery? We do not want to lose our fish.

Answer: No, the hatchery has been shut down for a long time now. Right now there are a number of studies that have been done and Uchucklesaht has made sure to do all they can to protect the Henderson Lake Sockeye through monitoring and box closures for the outside commercial fishermen.

Economic Development:

Question: Has Uchucklesaht considered looking into cultural tourism?

Answer: Yes, one day Uchucklesaht will approach aboriginal tourism BC. Uchucklesaht is going to hire someone to take over the marketing for Uchucklesaht businesses.

Question: We need to be aware of global warming. Uchucklesaht could lose a lot of water front when waters rise. Uchucklesaht should investigate this for the future and have a study done.

Answer: There are many studies already done out there. It is something that is happening around the world. The water is rising very little each year around the whole coast – it all raises the same around the globe.

The Thunderbird – Uchucklesaht will have construction begin in April 2015 and it will take approximately 12-14 months to complete. The building should be paid off in 25 years.

Forestry: (Overview Given)

Motion #03: Uchucklesaht Tribe Peoples Assembly recommends that all Uchucklesaht Tribe enrollees get paid an honorarium of \$20/per person to attend the Uchucklesaht Tribe Peoples Assemblies.

Moved: Sharon Styan Sr.

Seconded: Austin Snoek

(All in Favor – 16)

Motion Carried

Uchucklesaht Tribe Peoples Assembly March 14, 2015

Motion #04: Uchucklesaht Tribe Peoples Assembly accepts the budget as presented and amended.

Moved: Martin Sam

Seconded: Sharon Styan Sr.

(All in Favor – 16)

Motion Carried

Advisory Planning Commission – Official Community Planning Update:

(Overview of the process and work done to date is reviewed and maps are present for all to look at)

Motion #05: Uchucklesaht Tribe Peoples Assembly accepts the Advisory Planning Commission Update Report.

Moved: Randal Ginger

Seconded: Steve Rush

(All in Favor – 16)

Motion Carried

Next Peoples Assembly re: Audit:

Motion #06: Uchucklesaht Tribe Peoples Assembly agrees to discuss the next Uchucklesaht Tribe Peoples Assembly date to go over the Audit.

Moved: Thomas Rush

Seconded: Martin Sam

(All in Favor – 16)

Motion Carried

Motion #07: Uchucklesaht Tribe Peoples Assembly agrees to hold the next Uchucklesaht Peoples Assembly here in Port Alberni, BC on Saturday August 8th.

Moved: Wilfred Cootes Jr.

Seconded: Sharon Styan Sr.

(All in Favor – 16)

Motion Carried

General Comments:

- Thanks to all of Council and Administration, you are all very organized and present some great information, thank you.
- Thank you to our Uchucklesaht CAO for all of his hard work.
- The elders hamper comes in very handy, thanks to Uchucklesaht Tribe for that service.

Uchucklesaht Tribe Peoples Assembly March 14, 2015

Adjourn:

Motion #08: Uchucklesaht Tribe Peoples Assembly agrees to adjourn the meeting of the day.

Moved: Carla Halvorsen

Seconded: Sabrina Crowley

(All in Favor – 16)

Motion Carried

MEETING ADJOURNED