

MEETING NOTES

Port Community Liaison Committee - Delta

Meeting:	#31
Date:	Thursday, May 5, 2016
Time:	6:00 pm – 8:00 pm
Location:	Delta Community Office, 5225A Ladner Trunk Road, Ladner In the Trenant Park Shopping Centre, next to the Shoe Warehouse.
Facilitator	Michelle LeBaron
Chair:	n/a
Attendees:	<p>Community Representatives Leslie Abramson, Ladner Roger Emsley, Tsawwassen Robert McCandless, Tsawwassen Patrick Thompson, Tsawwassen Frank Rogers, Tsawwassen</p> <p>Environmental Representative Kate Hagmeier</p> <p>Organizations Tom Awrey, Delta Chamber of Commerce Allan Baydala, Vancouver Fraser Port Authority Marko Dekovic, Global Container Terminals Bernita Iversen, Corporation of Delta Gord Westlake, BC Rail Company Leisa Yee, Delta Farmers' Institute</p> <p>Facilitator and Coordinators Michelle LeBaron Naomi Horsford, Vancouver Fraser Port Authority Mandy Ellis, Vancouver Fraser Port Authority</p> <p>Delta Office Representative Chris Clarke, Vancouver Fraser Port Authority</p> <p>Guests: Tom Corsie, Vancouver Fraser Port Authority Krista Trounce, Vancouver Fraser Port Authority Dr. Marie Noel, Vancouver Aquarium</p>
Regrets:	Greg Andrew, Westshore Terminals Andrea Jacobs, Tsawwassen First Nation Randy Johnstone, Ladner

#	Agenda item
1. Introductions	
1.1	Michelle LeBaron, facilitator, gave an overview of the agenda and introduced Dr. Marie Noel and Krista Trounce, the evening’s presenters.
2. Presentations	
2.1	<p>PollutionTracker: <i>provided by Dr. Marie Noel, Research Manager, Vancouver Aquarium Ocean Pollution Research Program</i></p> <p>Krista Trounce, Environmental Programs, Vancouver Fraser Port Authority (VFPA) provided introductory remarks and background on VFPA’s partnership with the PollutionTracker project:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • At the Port Community Liaison Committee’s (PCLC) April 7, 2015, meeting, VFPA staff presented on the ECHO program, a Vancouver Fraser Port Authority-led initiative aimed at better understanding and managing the impact of shipping activities on at-risk whales throughout the southern coast of British Columbia. • The ECHO program initiates or supports projects that focus on key threat categories to marine mammals (acoustic disturbance, physical disturbance, environmental contaminants and availability of prey). • PollutionTracker, led by the Vancouver Aquarium, aims to establish a baseline of contaminant levels in shellfish and sediment on the B.C. coast, which represent the health of the habitat and food web for at-risk whale species in the region. • The ECHO program is supporting 10 PollutionTracker sampling locations in and around the VFPA jurisdiction. This work will help the port authority understand the current environmental state of southern resident killer whale habitat and guide best practices such as wastewater management. <p>Dr. Marie Noel provided a brief overview of pollutants found in the marine environment; explained how pollutants enter the marine environment; spoke to the importance of monitoring work and effectiveness of regulations and source control; and touched on analyses conducted for samples.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Over 100,000 chemicals on the market (4,000 ‘of concern’), including >300 pesticides used in B.C. agriculture, forestry and homes; petroleum hydrocarbons, countless pharmaceuticals, microbeads or microplastics, and by-products of industrial processes or combustion (notably, dioxins and furans). • Contaminants may end up in the water column (dissolved), but most are particle-active and end up in sediments or becoming taken up in the food web (see graphic on slide 3 of presentation here).

- The April 2015 bunker fuel spill in English Bay was cited provided as an example of the need for sampling work: pre-spill (baseline) hydrocarbon profiles are critical to source identification.
- PollutionTracker involves collecting and analyzing two dimensions: sediments and mussels (see slide 7 of the presentation [here](#)).
- Examples of priority pollutants being evaluated by PollutionTracker include PCBs, PBDEs, PAHs, dioxins, microplastics, and pharmaceuticals (see slide 13 of the presentation [here](#)).

PortTV episode was played for members: [People of the Port – Pollution Tracker](#)

The floor was opened for questions and comments.

Q) A member enquired about collaboration/coordination on pollution issues with Metro Vancouver and with the Province of B.C.

A) Marie Noel advised Vancouver Aquarium and Metro Vancouver share information. She was not aware of participation from the Province of B.C.

Q) A member asked whether the Vancouver Aquarium is working with the Georgia Strait Alliance (GSA).

A) Marie Noel advised that GSA is not a partner on the project, and that she could not speak to reasons for this. She noted her colleague Carmen Morales-Caselles put the project together and sourced potential partners for the project.

The same member queried why the two agencies are not partnered on this project.

ACTION: VFPA to follow up regarding PollutionTracker and Georgia Strait Alliance and report to committee.

Q) A member asked about sediment mobilization and sampling frequency.

A) Marie Noel explained that PollutionTracker is intended to be a long-term project. She said that phase one is complete, and that every two or three years the same sites will be resampled to record trends. Marie Noel noted it is not easy for sediments to be disrupted, and that the researchers pick sites that are not being dredged.

Q) A member asked about microplastics and possibility of regulation.

A) Marie Noel noted there is talk about banning microbeads found in items such as toothpastes and face scrubs. She said microplastics are a new area of research. Their team uses an FT-IR spectrometer and a library of polymers to detect and identify marine microplastics including their potential origin. She explained that many fibers come from laundry (e.g. every time a fleece is washed, thousands of fibers are released) and noted the Vancouver Aquarium is currently in conversation with Mountain Equipment Co-op about this.

Q) A member asked whether silica is being reported, and whether PollutionTracker is examining biodiversity.

A) Marie Noel replied that silica is being reported and that biodiversity is not being looked at; she reiterated that the focus of the project is sampling

	<p>contaminants.</p> <p>Q) A member asked about the data’s applicability to other species.</p> <p>A) Dr. Noel explained that the model has been developed for killer whales but could be applied at least in some ways to salmon or other species. Mussels, for example, give an indication of what’s going on lower in the food web.</p> <p>Q) The same member asked about other risks to killer whales in addition to those being studied.</p> <p>A) Krista Trounce clarified that Marie Noel is just speaking to one of the projects the ECHO program is supporting, and reiterated that other key threat categories are acoustic disturbance (underwater noise), and physical disturbance (strike risk). Physical disturbance is more of a risk to larger baleen whales than to killer whales.</p> <p>Q) A member asked how blubber biopsies are done.</p> <p>A) Marie Noel explained they are done by live dart. Krista Trounce indicated that in addition to biopsy, NOAA uses a dog to assist in finding and sampling killer whale excrement.</p> <p>Q) A member asked about coordination with the United States.</p> <p>A) Marie Noel reported that - for this particular data set - they have not collaborated with US, but interest has been expressed in expanding the program to Washington state. She also said that there has been some information sharing and collaboration on harbour seal populations with the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife.</p>
3. General Business	
3.1	<p>Noise monitoring public meeting with PCLC members at Delta Community Office, Saturday, May 7, 2016, 11:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.</p> <p>Patrick Thompson spoke to the purpose of the public meeting and the outreach done to date to generate community interest and attendance. He said that Gary Olszewski, Environmental Specialist, VFPA, will be on site to speak to the noise sentinel system, and he invited the members to participate and represent PCLC.</p> <p>Q) In response to member queries, Patrick reported there has been some interest to date from community members. Email and phone invitations have gone out and the event was publicized in the Delta Optimist.</p>
4. Correspondence	
4.1	<p>Community</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • General (n/a) • PCLC email

	<p>A new Fraser Surrey Docks (FSD) employee contacted PCLC regarding a potentially dangerous section of road near FSD terminal where the road apparently continues into the Fraser River.</p> <p>Concerns were forwarded to VFPA land operations and real estate staff who responded to the writer. PCLC shared with City of Surrey staff. It was determined area of concern is in the jurisdiction of the City of Surrey but that appropriate safety signage would be installed on the Port of Vancouver roadway. VFPA engineering staff will follow up. A traffic study of the area was due April 22, 2016.</p>
4.2	<p>Member enquiries</p> <p>Request from member for container forecast numbers. Staff responded that container traffic forecasts will be available for viewing and download on the Roberts Bank Terminal 2 Project website in the near future.</p>
5. Reports	
5.1	<p>Port update</p> <p>See update here.</p> <p>Q) In response to a member query about design of the proposed new terminal, VFPA noted there will be some ability to innovate within the constraints of the environmental approval.</p> <p>VFPA provided an update on truck age requirements which have been delayed in coming into effect to accommodate some truckers who purchased 2007 trucks with 2006 engines.</p> <p>ACTION: General overview on trucking presentation to PCLC in near future.</p> <p>VFPA spoke to branding update. "Port of Vancouver" represents the larger port community including terminals. The authority is now called the "Vancouver Fraser Port Authority".</p> <p>VFPA announced that the Vancouver Fraser Port Authority's Annual General Meeting will be held on May 31, 2016.</p> <p>Q) A member noted that registration via SurveyMonkey for the AGM is cumbersome and that it is unclear whether registration has been effected even after the forms are filled out online.</p> <p>ACTION: VFPA to follow up on AGM registration and report to member.</p>
6. New Business	
6.1	<p>Facilitator Michelle LeBaron gave a summary of the outcomes of the March 2016 strategic planning session. She reported on a proposed regular PCLC meeting segment in response to one of the items identified in the strategic planning session. The sessions would support members of PCLC to continuously improve their capacities to collaborate by presenting relevant research and</p>

	practice tips. Michelle LeBaron presented some ideas about language conducive to collaboration and members discussed their applicability.
6.2	<p>Update from Global Container Terminals (GCT)</p> <p>GCT provided an update on the Deltaport Intermodal Yard Reconfiguration Project, noting that progress has been steady and on track following some early challenges on start up. Overall, the dwell has been steady by delivering above the necessary weekly arrangements. The objective has been to stay ahead of potential volume surges caused by vessel bunching. GCT Deltaport is operating on a reduced footprint mode as construction is within the existing footprint. Collaboration from rail partners and work force is extremely appreciated.</p> <p>The first temporary track has been laid down. In Q3, the first CRMGs (Cantilever Rail Mounted Gantry cranes) will be begin arriving. Q1 2017 megamax ship to shore cranes set to arrive.</p> <p>GCT suggested members look to the project video on the GCT Canada website for more information.</p> <p>Q) In response to a member query, GCT noted the Deltaport Intermodal Yard Reconfiguration is the second of four phases of the overall Deltaport Terminal, Road and Rail Improvement Project (DTRRIP), a \$280M project that is privately funded by GCT.</p>

7. Action Items				
Meeting	Agenda Ref #	Action Item	Responsible	Due Date
31	1.1	VFPA and Vancouver Aquarium to report regarding PollutionTracker and Georgia Strait Alliance	Mandy E.	In progress
31	4.1	VFPA to follow up on AGM registration difficulties involving SurveyMonkey and report back to member	Mandy E.	COMPLETED
31	4.1	Coordinate general overview on trucking presentation	Mandy E.	Future meeting
29	2.1	Bring greeting card to next PCLC for group to sign and give to Geoff and Ken	Michelle L.	COMPLETED
29	2.2	Send more information about the Delta noise monitoring dashboard once it is live	Alycia M.	COMPLETED

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29	3.1	Investigate an “issues and response” table for web posting to use for PCLC email tracking	Alycia M.	COMPLETED
29	4.1	Coordinate presentation on industrial land	Alycia M.	COMPLETED
28	2.1	Review terms of reference (duties of members) to explain how it relates to the correspondence document	Michelle L.	COMPLETED
28	3.2	Port of Vancouver and Vancouver Aquarium to present “Pollution Watch” project	Alycia M.	COMPLETED
28	3.2	Discuss Port of Vancouver’s response on GIS systems and coordinated environment effects monitoring briefs	Alycia M.	Future meeting