

## MEETING NOTES

### Port Community Liaison Committee - Delta

<b>Meeting:</b>	<b>#51</b>
<b>Date:</b>	Thursday, December 5, 2019
<b>Time:</b>	Dinner: 5:30 pm (buffet) Meeting: 6:00 pm – 8:00 pm
<b>Location:</b>	Port of Vancouver Delta Community Office (5223 Ladner Trunk Road)
<b>Facilitator/Chair:</b>	Michelle LeBaron
<b>Coordinator:</b>	Alexandra Hearn
<b>Attendees:</b>	<p><b>Members:</b></p> <p><b>Community representatives</b>            Mark Gordienko, Tsawwassen            Dennis McJunkin, North Delta            Greg Wirch, Tsawwassen            Simran Walia, Ladner            Michelle Sharma, Ladner            Heather Lapper, Tsawwassen            Astor Drego, North Delta</p> <p><b>Environmental representative</b>            Oliver Busby (Ladner)</p> <p><b>Organizations</b>            Tom Corsie, Vancouver Fraser Port Authority            Marko Dekovic, Global Container Terminals            Bernita Iversen, City of Delta            Garry Shearer, Delta Chamber of Commerce            Gord Westlake, B.C. Rail Company            Greg Andrew, Westshore Terminals</p> <p><b>Others:</b></p> <p><b>Vancouver Fraser Port Authority</b>            Tanya Hawke, Vancouver Fraser Port Authority            Alexandra Hearn, Vancouver Fraser Port Authority</p>
<b>Regrets:</b>	Noel Roddick, Delta Farmers' Institute Steven Stark, Tsawwassen First Nation

#	Agenda item
<b>1. Introductions</b>	
1.1	Krista Trounce, Enhancing Cetacean Habitat and Observation (ECHO) Project Manager
<b>2. Presentation</b>	
2.1	<p><b>Presentation: Vancouver Fraser Port Authority – ECHO Program</b></p> <p><b>Q&amp;A highlights</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Oliver asked if BC Ferries receives incentives for noise reduction efforts. Krista indicated that while we can't speak for other organizations, last year, both BC Ferries and Seaspan received EcoAction incentives and were recognized at the</li> </ul>

port authority's Blue Circle Awards for helping to maintain and protect the natural environment in and around the Port of Vancouver. BC Ferries has also developed their own [underwater noise management plans](#).

- Garry asked if the financial incentives are significant enough for customers to seek them out. Tom commented that yes these financial incentives are enough to encourage participation, but the incentives are two part; Financial and organizational recognition through the Blue Circle Awards.

Post meeting update: *Our customers have shown a great deal of interest in the EcoAction Program and last year nearly a third of the ships calling at the Port of Vancouver received this environmental recognition. In addition, for over 10 years, the port authority has awarded the Blue Circle Awards to those shipping lines that have made the effort to invest in ship technologies and practices to perform above and beyond environmental regulatory requirements. For more information on the program and harbour dues discount provided, visit [our website](#).*

- Dennis asked how many of the EcoAction incentives are from emissions vs. sound reduction. Krista indicated that she didn't have the specifics on hand and we would follow up.

Post meeting update: *The EcoAction Program was launched in 2007 to recognize ships that had implemented emission reduction measures and other environmental practices. In 2017, based on ECHO Program research, the port authority added underwater noise reduction criteria to the EcoAction Program. This made Canada the first country in the world to encourage quieter ships. As underwater noise reduction incentives are still fairly new, the majority of our EcoAction Program incentives are awarded for air emission reduction and use of shore power.*

- Oliver asked what is the behavioural response of whales when underwater noise is affecting them? Krista commented that valuating the potential behavioural response of killer whales to shipping noise is complicated, in part because there are so few whales. To help understand the potential benefits of vessel noise reduction efforts, the ECHO Program relies on computer modelling studies, which are included in final project reports found on [our website](#). In addition to ECHO Program projects, [Fisheries and Oceans Canada](#) is advancing many studies to better understand whale behavior in response to underwater noise.
- Astor asked if it is likely that the slowdown initiative will be regulated? Krista noted that the ECHO Program's slowdown initiatives take place outside of port jurisdiction and in transboundary waters, therefore any decision on regulation would need to be made by Transport Canada and the U.S. government. Our view is that any proposed regulations must be informed by a full understanding of not only the impact on whales, but the effects of navigational safety, operational feasibility, and commercial and economic growth. That being said, the high participation rates in the ECHO Program's underwater noise reduction initiatives show that voluntary measures are an effective way to reduce noise for at-risk whales.
- Oliver asked if this program is being adopted by Northern ports. Krista noted the Prince Rupert Port Authority has a similar program supporting at-risk whales called the [Marine Mammal Program](#). The ECHO Program team is also supporting the development of a similar program in Washington State as part of their [Southern Resident Orca Task Force](#).

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Gord asked how far away a whale would have to be from the ship for the noise to dissipate? Krista noted the ECHO Program research has shown that underwater noise generated by a ship is affected by the size, type and speed of the ship. How sound travels underwater, and how that sound is received by the whales also depends on background noise and environmental conditions such as tidal currents, wind, and water temperature. The ECHO Program continues to gather underwater noise measurements to help better understand ship noise, and how it may affect whales in our region.</li> </ul>
<b>3. General Business</b>	
<p>3.1</p> <p>3.2</p> <p>3.3</p>	<p>2019 Holiday donation</p> <p><b>Highlights</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Committee vote: OWL and Mission to Seafarers</li> <li>Michelle: Noted next year we could reach out to organizations in October.</li> </ul> <p>2020 Terms of Reference (TOR) update</p> <p><i>Action: to add specific wording outlining environmental committee member position.</i></p> <p><b>Highlights</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Add to TOR b. iii one member of the 4-7 someone who is a professional representative with formal training.</li> <li>Oliver noted the individual should have a professional designation or credentials that can be reviewed at the time of application to committee.</li> </ul> <p>Year end interviews and review process</p>
<b>4. Reports</b>	
<p>4.1</p>	<p><b>Port update</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>See port update document.</li> </ul> <p><b>Q&amp;A highlights</b></p> <p><b>RBT2</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Greg A. asked if there are any updates on the CEAA process. Tom noted that the review panel is currently reviewing all the materials and a response is expected in 2020.</li> <li>Gord asked if the procurement process change would affect the CEAA process. Tom noted that it would not.</li> <li>Marko asked if the procurement model change means there wasn't response from the market. Tom noted that isn't the case. There was a healthy response from the market but due to the length of time passed, the process timeline has now ended (no mutual agreement reached).</li> <li>Marko asked if the committee can have a future presentation on container volume projections, particularly of how the Port Authority reached the conclusion that the Port of Vancouver would be out of container capacity by the mid 2020's.</li> </ul> <p><b>Land Use Plan Update</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Mark Gordienko noted that he attended the land use plan update, stakeholder</li> </ul>

	session at Canada Place on behalf of the PCLC. He provided a verbal report about the activities and topics discussed to the committee.
4.2	Committee member enquiries
4.3	Delta Community Office
<b>5. New Business</b>	
5.1	<p>2020 Topics of interest planning</p> <p><b>Highlights</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Michelle L. will tabulate member votes of topics of interest and plan presentations accordingly with Alex and Tanya.</li> <li>Michelle L. noted there is quite a bit of interest to hear updates from GCT, Westshore and BC Rail. Marko offered tour a of GCT Deltaport to members. <i>Action: Alex to reach out to Marko to confirm a tour date in 2020.</i></li> <li>Bernita: expressed interest in developing communications strategies for communicating out from PCLC. <i>Action: Add communications strategies as an action item for February 7 meeting.</i></li> </ul>

Meeting	Agenda Ref #	Action Item	Responsible	Due Date
50	5.1	Inquire about PCLC getting together with other liaison committees	Alex	2020
50	5.1	Presentation from HEP Team: Habitat Enhancement Program regarding Delta sites	Alex	2020 meeting
50	5.3	Send Burrard Inlet harbour tour invitation to committee members	Tanya/Alex	Complete
49	3.1	Tanya to change dates of PCLC Interviews.	Tanya	Complete
49	5.1	Alex to follow up with project team on truck staging lane closure duration and impact.	Alex	Complete
49	5.1	Alex to share link for Fraser Grain Terminal construction website and videos.	Alex	Complete
49	5.2	Noel to send a letter from Delta Farmers' Institute regarding Westham Island irrigation project proposal.	Noel	Complete
48	3.1	Mandy to confirm committee members' terms.	Mandy E.	Complete
48	3.1	Mandy to prepare and circulate advertisement/PCLC application requirements and details for members to share within their networks.	Mandy E.	Complete
48	5.1	Mandy to follow up with project team on these specific questions and share the Raptor Management Plan for the Deltaport	Mandy E.	Complete

		Truck Staging Area with the committee.		
48	5.1	Mandy to follow up with ECHO program team regarding questions about compensation to vessel agents/shipping companies.	Mandy E.	Complete
47	3.1	Patrick to send article ideas to committee members for feedback.	Patrick	Complete
47	5.1	VFPA to provide DFI comments regarding the Westham Island Canoe Pass Tidal Marsh project to habitat enhancement team.	Mandy E.	Complete
46	3.2	VFPA to follow up with HEP team regarding Westham Island Tidal Marsh Project and engagement with DFI.	Mandy E.	Complete
44	3.1	Review Terms of Reference and provide suggested changes to Michelle for review and feedback.	Mandy E.	Complete
44	7.1	Invite presenter on the Fraser River Estuary and the Western Sandpiper to a future meeting.	Mandy E.	Complete
43	5.2	Follow up with project team regarding report referenced in response to member enquiry.	Mandy E.	Complete
40	5.1	Presentation to PCLC regarding ECHO Program Vessel Slowdown Trial once results have been received.	Mandy E.	Complete
35	2.2	Provide formal presentation on salinity study and next steps.	Leisa L.	Future meeting
33	4.1	Presentation to PCLC regarding the Fraser River including the port's jurisdiction and long-term strategies.	Mandy E.	Complete