



Port Community Liaison Committee

Meeting summary notes

Meeting:	
Date:	Thursday, June 1, 2023
Time:	6:00 to 8:00 p.m.
Location:	Hybrid meeting (in-person at the Delta Community Office and over Zoom)
Facilitator:	Michelle LeBaron
Attendees:	<p>Community representatives Randy Anderson-Fennell, Ladner Mike Frost, Ladner Heather Lapper, Tsawwassen Greg Wirch, Tsawwassen</p> <p>Environmental representative Oliver Busby</p> <p>Organizational representatives Chris Bevilacqua, BC Railway Company Bernita Iversen, City of Delta Lydia Elder in place of Jill McKnight, Delta Chamber of Commerce Noel Roddick, Delta Farmers' Institute Jennifer Natland, Vancouver Fraser Port Authority Greg Andrew, Westshore Terminals</p> <p>Guest speakers: Sean McNulty, VFPA Bryan Nelson, VFPA Jane Banham, VFPA</p> <p>Committee coordinators Tanya Hawke, VFPA Marc Testa, VFPA</p>

Regrets :	Richard Sparrow, Musqueam First Nation representative Marko Dekovic, Global Container Terminals Sepia Sharma, North Delta Sheila Williams, Tsawwassen First Nation representative
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Agenda topic	Discussion/action items
1. Welcome, acknowledgement and introductions	Michelle began with an Indigenous land acknowledgement and noted the meeting's regrets. Michelle also welcomed Jennifer to the committee as she has taken over Tom Corsie's role.
2. Presentation: Enabling Canada's trade by delivering Port Capacity	Jane Banham explained the relationship between increasing Canada's trade and the growth of Port capacity. Her presentation is here . Q&A: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Greg: "What steps are the port authority taking to mitigate potential environmental impacts related to RBT2?" <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Jane summarized the port authority's environmental programs such as ECHO but referred the question to Sean and Bryan for their RBT2 presentation.
3. Presentation: Next steps for Roberts Bank Terminal 2	Sean McNulty and Bryan Nelson provided an update on the RBT2 project. The presentation link is here . Q&A: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Noel "When will the port authority provide a list of habitat mitigation projects related to the RBT2 project to the public?" <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Answer: "The port authority is still in the process of finalizing our plans related to habitat creation, but we plan on consulting with local groups such as the Delta Farmers Institute and releasing that information when its available." 2. Bernita: "Why was the RBT2 approval granted when the federal environment minister stated adverse environmental impacts were not mitigatable?" <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 2.1. Oliver: "How will the port authority maintain their environmental obligations after the completion of the project to ensure the long-term health of the ecosystems?" "And does the port authority plan to exceed their obligations to ensure the created eco systems and habitats operate as planned?" <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Bryan responded to Bernita: "The port authority has not been informed of how the federal cabinet makes their decisions or how they choose to release their information and statements." - Bryan responding to Oliver: "The port authority is taking all the necessary actions to mitigate the environmental impacts of this project while delivering Canadians this needed infrastructure." - Bryan continues: "The RBT2 project plans to create or restore close to 100 hectares of habitat which shows the scale of efforts being taken to mitigate impacts that were found to be possible during the construction of the project." - Finally, Bryan states: "The port authority will take the necessary steps to ensure habitats and projects are functioning as they should which may include making changes if they are found to be needed." 3. Heather: "What will happen if the provincial approval is not granted for the RBT2 project and can new legal obligations be imposed by the provincial government?"

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Bryan responded: “The port authority will address the provincial decision after it is made and will not speculate at this time as our team has other work to complete while awaiting the decision.” “The team has confidence in the project and receiving approval.” - Bryan stated: “The provincial government can add conditions to the project because it has different areas of jurisdiction.” <p>4. Heather: “How does the port authority plan to engage in community relations given not all community members and certain groups support the project?”</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Bryan stated: “We understand that not everyone will agree on the decisions reached regarding RBT2, but the port authority is proud of the collaboration it has achieved with local groups to develop this project to current point.” - Bryan finishes by stating: “Mutual benefit agreements with local indigenous groups such as Tsawwassen and Musqueam nations have been signed with the port authority. These groups have also expressed public statements of support.”
<p>4. Roundtable</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Greg Andrews: Westshore terminal upgrades ongoing and awaiting further permits. Seismic upgrades for the island are being done. - Noel Roddick – Delta Farmers’ Institute: Noel mentioned his support for having the fireworks at Canada place reinstated by the Port authority and thanked everyone for the night. - Mike Frost: Stated his positive opinion of the RBT2 project as he believes it positions Canada well to compete on a global stage for generations to come. Additionally, he states he believes Canada can take pride in our sustainable infrastructure and believes RBT2 will be another example of that. Post-meeting follow-up: VFPA is gathering permission from panel members to share the video publicly. Stay tuned. - Greg Wirch: No updates, however, he stated his confidence in the efforts taken to mitigate environmental impact of RBT2 due to the extensive consultations with indigenous groups. - Randy Anderson-Fennell: He provided an update on the current port labour negotiations and how a pause on those negotiations had been decided. - Chris Bevilacqua: Provided an update regarding new infrastructure being created to hold trains in larger numbers and sizes. He also mentioned the local infrastructure bottlenecks that need to be addressed to ensure RBT2 can be delivered in its full capacity. - Lydia Elder: Stated that the chamber is passionate about expanding port capacity in Delta. - Bernita Iverson: She made a personal comment, not as the City of Delta representative, that she does not believe people are recognizing the climate crisis currently facing the planet and thinks that things need to be done differently to avoid disaster. - Jennifer Natland: Announced that the port authority’s CEO Robin Silvester has decided to move on after RBT2 successfully attained the federal environmental approval.
<p>5. Port Update</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Find Jennifer Natland’s port update here. - Post-meeting follow-up: The video link of the Annacis Auto Terminal rail improvements aerial tour is here.
<p>6. Conclusion and Thank you’s</p>	<p>Meeting adjourned at 8:02 p.m. with the next meeting scheduled for October 12, 2023</p> <p>Two committee events: July 15 committee liaison harbour tour and September 22 Bard on the Beach (VFPA has limited tickets for those interested).</p>