

REPORT TO THE PUBLIC ON THE MARCH 2016 QUARTERLY BOARD MEETING

Greater Victoria Harbour Authority's (GVHA) Board of Directors met on March 3, 2016 for its regular quarterly public and in-camera meetings. The following summarizes the meetings:

PUBLIC

Dorothy Chambers of Friends of Cuthbert Holmes Park & Colquitz River Salmon Program gave a presentation on the key role that Ogden Point plays in salmon enhancement. Every September there are thousands of Coho salmon which pass by GVHA's Ogden Point site which is an important area as the water eventually feeds the eel grass in Portage Inlet, the Colquitz River and Craigflower estuary where the pacific herring will spawn. There is also a federally regulated bird sanctuary located at Ogden Point. The birds feed on the mud flats along the entire watershed so any contaminants in the water affects the birds as well as the fish. Ms. Chambers noted that there is a trickling effect of unmitigated oil spills and contaminants, which if occurred at Ogden Point, would end up impacting plant and animal life in the Colquitz River watershed.

The Chair summarized the 2015 cruise season and provided projections for the 2016 season. The season was very successful and marked a record year in Victoria with 227 ships and 533,000 passengers. Regarding air emission tests the results scored were very good with no emissions tests exceeding the standards. For the 2016 cruise season, 227 ships are scheduled with the largest cruise ship on the Alaskan itinerary Royal Caribbean's "Explorer of the Seas" making 21 calls to Victoria.

An update was provided on the Ogden Point Master Plan. Community conversations about the Master Plan have been very successfully well attended with a high level of engagement. The Ogden Point Master Plan will represent a benefit to the community and be a part of it not something that is separate from it. As the Function and Facilities plan is completed and GVHA moves into the rezoning process more consultation with the community will occur.

An update was provided on Ground Transportation strategy initiatives which will be implemented in 2016 for bus transportation and promoting pedestrian walkability to cruise ship staff and passengers. Efforts are continuing with making the shuttle service to downtown green and sustainable. A revised tariff structure is being put into place that will provide a greater incentive for tour operators to use more modern buses. Bus operators will be rewarded for using newer equipment. Exciting news for this season is an environmentally friendly zero emission electric bus which will start serving as transportation for Ogden Point. This is a partnership between GVHA and Green Power Bus.

GVHA's 3 Year Business Plan was ratified today by the Board with development on track and implementation scheduled for April 1, 2016. In developing its Business Plan GVHA followed a similar consultative process as used during the development of its 10 year Strategic Plan seeking feedback from our Member Agencies as well as the public. In consultations with Stakeholders input was also gathered regarding the 3 primary properties managed by GVHA.

The Chair introduced Mark Mawhinney, GVHA's newest Director to the Board who has been appointed as an independent Director for a three year term. The Chair also acknowledged Christina Clarke and Doug Crowder have both been appointed to their second three-year terms, and Ben Isitt has been appointed to his second one-year term.

The Chair announced the appointments of GVHA's table officers for 2016: Board Chair – Dave Cowen, Vice Chair - Chief Andy Thomas, Secretary – Nils Jensen, Treasurer – Doug Crowder

The CEO announced that as of March 24th GVHA will be moving their corporate offices to a smaller unit in their current building. Office space will be reduced by 44% and result in significant annual savings to GVHA.

IN-CAMERA

The Board discussed Member Agency relationships, Society structure, Board Committee composition, and public engagement.

The CEO announced that GVHA was recently awarded a 4 anchor rating (previously 3) by Clean Marine BC for our Fisherman's Wharf location and all Inner Harbour marinas. GVHA was awarded an overall score of 88.7 for programs and initiatives that educate and reduce environmental impacts. Initiatives were taken around fuel dock, infrastructure and waste management.

The CEO updated the Board on GVHA's recent decision to leave Cruise BC which opens up the possibility of developing strategic partnerships with other ports as well as future opportunities. He highlighted GVHA's goal of becoming a home port by 2020, however one of the main deterrents to this becoming a real possibility is the issue of pre-clearance.

The Board approved GVHA's FY2016/17 operating and capital budgets.

The CEO notified the Board that resources will be dedicated this cruise ship season to enforcing and administering the policies around ground transportation in order to have a more visible presence at the terminal. A world host training program is also being provided for all of the operators and Commissionaires in order to have some consistency on quality of service at the terminal. A kickoff event with ground transportation providers and any cruise industry supporters will be held at the end of March to start the season off on a positive note with a reminder of where GVHA wants the facility to be going in comparison to a world class, service quality experience.

The CEO re-introduced GVHA's new Manager of Marketing and Communications (MMC), Kirsten Denham, who joined the organization on November 5, 2016. Her background includes experience in progressive global marketing and program management.

Mark Crisp of Stantec presented an update on the Ogden Point Master Plan (OPMP) and discussed the transition from a Functional and Facilities Plan to a Master Plan. Currently in the process of determining how the market assessments will affect the implementation stages of the plan and what the strategic approach will be to building or financing. The plan includes the creation of development zones which will assist in the rezoning process and identify how each zone is going to function and be utilized. Also included is the creation of a cultural gateway into the site with a First Nations presence to celebrate their culture and highlight activities that people can come and see. Over 70% of the site will still be focused on Industrial Marine work.

Mariah McCooey, the new Harbour Master from Transport Canada introduced herself to the Board and gave a presentation on the main components involved in her role including being responsible for: safety in the harbour from a marine and aviation perspective, harbour patrol from a traffic scheme and security perspective, and emergency planning and response. Some projects where GVHA and the Harbour Master are working together are on emergency planning and a spill response plan.

All Board Committee Chairs provided updates on Committee work completed in the previous quarter and planned projects for the next quarter.