



## GOVERNMENT SERVICES COMMITTEE

MONDAY, OCTOBER 17, 2011  
5:30 P.M.

COUNCIL CHAMBERS, CITY HALL  
410 ESPLANADE

*Mandate – To advise Council on a broad spectrum of issues related to departmental matters*

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|  | COUNCILLOR STEVE ARNETT, CHAIR | <u>Page</u> |
|--|--------------------------------|-------------|
| CALL TO ORDER  |                                |             |
| 1. AGENDA APPROVAL   |                                |             |
| 2. MINUTES   |                                |             |
| 2.1. October 4, 2011 (Special Committee Meeting)                                     |                                | 1 – 4       |
| 3. DELEGATIONS   |                                |             |
| 3.1. Clayton Brenton, Dynamic Technology and Consulting<br>Dynamic Wormoponic System |                                | 5 – 6       |
| 4. CITY MANAGER’S REPORT   |                                |             |
| 5. STAFF REPORTS   |                                |             |
| 5.1. Financial Plan Update –September 2011   |                                | 7 – 14      |
| 5.2. Building Inspector’s Report – September 2011                                    |                                | 15          |
| 5.3. Trolley Report – September 2011   |                                | 16          |
| 5.4. Fire Chief’s Report – September 2011  |                                | 17          |
| 5.5. Coastal Animal Control Services – September 2011 Pound Report                   |                                | 18 – 19     |
| 6. MEMBER SUBMISSIONS  |                                |             |
| 6.1. Mayor Hutchins – Presentation to UBCM on Closed Meetings                        |                                | 20 - 29     |

**7. CORRESPONDENCE****7.1. Laurie Gourlay, Mid-Island Sustainability & Stewardship Initiative  
Request for Support of 'Green Gateway to Vancouver Island' Initiative****30 - 37**Staff Recommendation:

That the committee recommend to Council that Council provide a letter of support for the proposed 'Green Gateway to Vancouver Island Initiative' outlined by L. Gourlay in his correspondence dated September 27, 2011.

**8. NEW BUSINESS****9. UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

The following items were referred from the October 4, 2011 Special Government Services Committee meeting:

**9.1. Council – Public Dialogue Session (August 2, 2011)****9.1.1. Citizen Contact****9.1.2. Protocol****9.2. Third Party Directional Signage****9.3. Trolley Literacy****9.4. 100 Gatacre Alley****ADJOURNMENT**



LADYSMITH

TOWN OF LADYSMITH  
MINUTES OF A SPECIAL MEETING OF  
THE GOVERNMENT SERVICES COMMITTEE  
TUESDAY, OCTOBER 4, 2011 – 5:00 P.M.

**COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Councillor Steve Arnett, Chair  
Mayor Rob Hutchins

Councillor Jillian Dashwood  
Councillor Duck Paterson

Councillor Lori Evans  
Councillor Bruce Whittington

**COUNCIL MEMBERS ABSENT:**

Councillor Scott Bastian

**STAFF PRESENT:**

Ruth Malli  
Erin Anderson

Sandy Bowden  
Joanna Winter

Felicity Adams

**CALL TO ORDER**

Councillor Arnett called the meeting of the Government Services Committee to order at 5:00 p.m.

**AGENDA APPROVAL**

2011-113

It was moved, seconded and carried that the agenda be adopted as circulated.

**MINUTES**

2011-114

It was moved, seconded and carried that the Government Services Committee minutes for the meeting held September 19, 2011 be adopted as circulated.

**DELEGATIONS**

None

**CITY MANAGER'S REPORT**

The City Manager responded to questions from Council regarding operational activities.

**STAFF REPORTS**

2011-115

Housekeeping Amendments to the Waste, Recyclables and Organics Collection Bylaw

It was moved, seconded and carried that the Committee recommend to Council that staff be directed to proceed with preparing a bylaw to amend Town of Ladysmith Garbage, Recyclables and Organics Collection Bylaw 2005, No. 1588.

**MEMBER SUBMISSIONS**

**2011-116**      **Giant Hogweed**  
It was moved, seconded and carried that the Committee recommend to Council that staff be requested to investigate and report back regarding the eradication of Giant Hogweed in the Town of Ladysmith.

**2011-117**      **Intersection at Colonia and Malone**  
It was moved, seconded and carried that the Committee recommend to Council that staff be requested to investigate the feasibility of a four-way stop, roundabout, or other traffic calming measure at the intersection of Colonia Drive and Malone Road and a three-way stop or other traffic calming measure at the intersection of Dunsmuir Crescent and Colonia Drive.

**2011-118**      It was moved, seconded and carried that the Committee recommend to Council that staff be requested to investigate the safety of intersections at Christie Road and Fourth Avenue, Cemetery Hill, and, Walkem Road and Cloke Road.

**2011-119**      It was moved, seconded and carried that the Committee recommend to Council that staff be requested to investigate the installation of stop sign warning notices north and southbound approaching the intersection of Fourth Avenue and Roberts Street.

**Union of British Columbia Municipalities Convention**

Mayor Hutchins congratulated Council and the Town for two awards received at the convention, in particular the 'Most Small Business Friendly Community' Award for the Vancouver Island/Coast Region for creating a positive climate for small business in the community. The second award was an honourable mention in the Partnerships Category of the UBCM Community Excellence Awards for the partnership that created the Ladysmith Community Services Centre.

**2011-120**      It was moved, seconded and carried that the Committee recommend to the next Council that funds be set aside in the budget for an awards display case at the Frank Jameson Community Centre.

Councillors Evans, Whittington and Arnett reported on the workshops that they had attended at the Union of British Columbia Municipalities.

Councillor Arnett congratulated Council for its leadership in the adoption of Council's resolution on the protection of British Columbia watersheds by the Union of British Columbia Municipalities convention.

**CORRESPONDENCE**

**Danh Phan, Wigwam Restaurant**

**Concerns Regarding Recent Filming in Ladysmith**

2011-121

It was moved, seconded and carried that the Committee recommend to Council that the correspondence from D. Phan expressing concerns about the effect on business of filming in Ladysmith be referred to staff for review and recommendation, in consultation with the Ladysmith Downtown Business Association.

**NEW BUSINESS**

None

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

**Town Hall Meeting – I-Clicker Results**

2011-122

It was moved, seconded and carried that the Committee recommend to Council that the recorded audience response at the July 19, 2011 Town Hall meeting regarding the Liquid Waste Management Plan be referred to the Liquid Waste Management Committee for inclusion in the Public Consultation Report for the Liquid Waste Management Plan.

2011-123

It was moved, seconded and carried that the Committee recommend to Council that staff be requested to prepare a report regarding options to amend the Animal Control Bylaw to permit chickens in backyards.

2011-124

It was moved, seconded and carried that the Committee recommend to Council that the question of the licensing of cats be referred to a January 2012 meeting of Council.

2011-125

It was moved, seconded and carried that the Committee recommend to Council that a feasibility study be carried out on the establishment of a recreational vehicle park in the waterfront area.  
*OPPOSED: Councillors Evans and Whittington.*

**ADJOURNMENT**

2011-126

It was moved, seconded and carried that this meeting of the government Services Committee be adjourned at 6:18 p.m. and that the remaining agenda items be referred to the October 17, 2011 meeting of the Government Services Committee.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Chair (Councillor S. Arnett)

**CERTIFIED CORRECT**

Corporate Officer (S. Bowden)

Subject to Adoption

The  
**DYNAMIC WORMOPONIC SYSTEM™**



**Wormoponics™** (sometimes called vermiponics) is the combination of growing worms (vermiculture) and growing plants without soil (hydroponics).

Wormoponics™ is a relatively new field of agriculture and is based on many of the principles found in aquaponics, which is the combination of growing fish (aquaculture) with hydroponics. In aquaponics, soluble fish waste is used to provide the nutrition for plant growth. In wormoponics™ the nutrition comes from vegetable compost and the “castings” created by the worms. Dynamic Technology and Consulting Inc (“Dynamic”) has developed a system (the Dynamic Wormoponic System™) for hydroponically growing plants in a proprietary soilless mixture that can be used in modified commercial “deep water raft culture” and also in “flood & drain media based” systems. In the former, a worm casting compost tea is used as the nutrient liquid base and in the latter, a patent pending device (the Worminator™) which was developed by Dynamic, is placed directly in the flood & drain growbed and provides nutrients that are extracted from the worm castings. Neither of these two systems (raft or flood & drain) use chemical fertilizers or pesticides. As a result, the liquid contents of the raft growtrough or flood & drain reservoir do not need to be drained due to reaching a state of concentrated chemical toxicity. In most situations, if the grower decides to replace (i.e. drain off) a portion of the contents of the reservoir, this liquid will be highly beneficial for watering soil-based plant systems.

In the raft system, water is circulated within the growtrough using air diffuser tubes. No water circulating pumps are required. The rafts can be held stationary or a linear raft moving system can be utilized... i.e. starter-sized plants are placed in rafts at one end of the growtrough and then continually moved the length of the growtrough over the grow cycle of the plants until they reach the harvest end of the trough, where the rafts of fully grown plants are removed for harvest. Many alternatives to this technique are available, and can be tailored to meet the needs of individual clients.

In the flood and drain media system, plants are grown in pots of varying size/height containing the proprietary soilless mixture. These pots are placed in cut out areas of a recyclable polystyrene sheet (similar to that used in the raft system) that sits on top of a media such as hydroton or gravel. This sheet is used to reduce evaporation, stabilize the pots and to insulate the plant roots and flood & drain liquid. The pots are not submerged in the liquid but the plant roots are able to grow down into the media. In general, a timer activates a small pump in the reservoir sump for a period of 10 minutes every 2 hours during daylight hours. The pump does not need to run at night. Energy requirements for this and the raft system are minimal... and in many locations can be run on solar powered units if desired/required.

The Dynamic Wormoponic System™ was developed by Dr. Clayton Brenton and his team at Dynamic Technology and Consulting Inc. Dr. Brenton has worked for 35 years in the fisheries, aquaculture and aquaponic fields. Wormaponics™ resulted from Dr. Brenton's work in aquaponics and the desire by many of his clients to minimize the complexities associated with aquaponic systems... and to make the "fish rearing side" an option, rather than a necessity in producing fast growing organically produced vegetables. The resultant Dynamic Wormoponic System™ is much easier and much cheaper to construct, operate and maintain. Fish can still be used in the process, and when this is done, the nitrate-rich water from the fish portion of the system is used to top-up the water lost to evaporation and transpiration in the worm/plant side of the operation. In this situation, the water flows from the fish side to the worm/plant side, but not in reverse. As such, it is easier to achieve optimum pH and temperature levels for both the fish and plants, which are generally compromised in a standard aquaponic operation.

**A few of the benefits of Dynamic Wormoponic System™ include:**

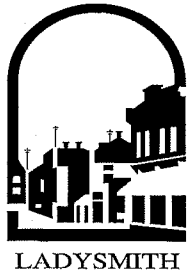
- The ability to easily turn vegetable waste/garbage into a valuable high-nutrient organic fertilizer and at the same time reduce the volume of garbage going to land-fill sites. This process also negates the need for chemical based fertilizers or for fishmeal based diets (as are used in most aquaponic operations).
- The worms do the composting work more quickly and more thoroughly than in non-worm-containing conventional compost bins.
- The compost bin contents do not have to be "turned" because the Extractor is a "flow-through technology" with waste going into the top... and good stuff coming out of the bottom.
- The plants benefit from the increased worm-induced microbial activity in the grow-media and the resultant significant decrease in susceptibility of the plants to pests and disease. As such, under recommended growing procedures, chemical pesticides do not normally need to be used. It is possible to produce "organically certified" vegetables in the System.
- A soilless grow-media is used, so there is no need for tilling of the soil (or bringing in new soil each year), building raised beds, installing extensive watering/pumping systems, weeding... the list goes on...
- All activities can be done at waist (or wheelchair) height if desired, so bending over and kneeling are not necessary.
- The electrical power use is significantly less than in conventional hydroponic and aquaponic systems.
- The chance of catastrophic loss due to power failure (as can result in aquaponic systems) is minimized. The plants can often live for several days without electrical power.
- The costly biofilters, water circulation, oxygenation and sludge removal systems required in aquaponics are not needed in wormaponics™.
- The System uses less than 10% of the water required to grow vegetables in a conventional soil-type garden and also less than needed in standard hydroponic operations.
- Very little training is needed to operate the system efficiently.

The Dynamic Wormoponic System™ is available in backyard modular units™ and in large-scale commercial production versions.

For more information and pricing please contact:

Clayton Brenton, PhD RPBio  
President  
Dynamic Technology and Consulting Inc.  
001 250 741 4109 - Canada  
011 52 1 612 136 7217 - Mexico  
info@dynamicctci.com





Town of Ladysmith  
**STAFF REPORT**

To: Ruth Malli, City Manager  
From: Erin Anderson, Director of Financial Services  
Date: October 11, 2011  
File No:

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Re: Financial Update – September 2011

RECOMMENDATION(S):

That Government Services Committee receive this report.

PURPOSE:

Continuing to deliver on the Finance Department's goal of monthly financial statements

INTRODUCTION/BACKGROUND:

Included is the analysis for the finances to the end of September. Included in the report is a Cash Flow statement as well as some additional information on Tangible Capital Assets. A line-by-line report is available for Council to review upon request.

Notes & Trends

Revenues:

- PRC revenues continue to be slightly less than in previous years.
- Interest and Penalties revenue is forecasted to exceeding budget. The majority of this is due to the redemption of a 2010 Tax Sale property as well as the payment of 2011 delinquent taxes.
- The 3rd Quarter Utility bills were mailed. The bills are due in mid December.

Operating Expenses:

- All department operating expenses as a department total are projected to be within budget overall. Significant individual line-item budget differences have been included in previous reports.

Other items:

- Tax Sale: The 2010 Tax Sale property has been redeemed. There was no Tax Sale for 2011 as the delinquent taxes were paid on all the properties set to be auctioned.
- Over the next few months, Council will be presented with appropriation bylaws to complete the funding of various projects. These appropriations were included in the budget but the actual transferring of funds must be approved by Council.

- The 2012-2016 Financial Plan is currently being drafted.

#### Tangible Capital Assets

At the last Government Services meeting, the Committee requested additional information on Tangible Capital Assets (TCA). Due to our lack of software, actual TCA values are not administratively feasible to complete on a monthly basis. The information that has been included in the financial reports is Net Book Value from 2010 plus any project additions/deletions in the current year. The amortization amount for 2011 has not been calculated as, again, we do not have the software or the staff resources to calculate this on a monthly basis. It is estimated that this amount will be over \$2.2M (2010 was \$2M).

In tonight's report, the amount of TCA is \$77,607,228. This amount is made up of:

|                                   | Value              | Amortization<br>up to 2010 | Ending<br>Balance |
|-----------------------------------|--------------------|----------------------------|-------------------|
| Land                              | 8,427,859          |                            | 8,427,859         |
| Land Improvements                 | 4,291,031          | 1,662,402                  | 2,628,629         |
| Buildings                         | 15,567,437         | 2,651,939                  | 12,915,498        |
| Vehicles, Furniture,<br>Equipment | 5,076,316          | 2,796,321                  | 2,279,995         |
| Transportation                    | 24,033,200         | 10,693,199                 | 13,340,001        |
| Sanitary Sewer                    | 13,614,428         | 4,202,518                  | 9,411,910         |
| Storm Sewer                       | 7,271,824          | 1,556,922                  | 5,714,902         |
| Water                             | 14,352,230         | 3,218,488                  | 11,133,742        |
| Work in Progress                  | 11,754,694         | -                          | 11,754,694        |
|                                   | <u>104,389,017</u> | <u>26,781,789</u>          | <u>77,607,228</u> |

Much of the costs within Work In Progress will be transferred to the specific categories at year end as these costs are related to High Street and Forest Field projects which will be complete at December 31, 2011.

What TCA does highlight is the need to ensure that the value of the assets is much greater than the ending balance. For example, the category "Buildings" contains FJCC, High Street (to 2010), RCMP building and other buildings. According to the listing, there are a number of buildings that are fully depreciated and extended beyond their replacement year. These include Aggie hall (suggested replacement year 1978), City Hall (suggested replacement year 1985), and three Transfer Beach buildings (suggested replacement year 2005). The Fire Hall is listed to be replaced in 2012.

If Council wishes more detailed information regarding TCA's on quarterly or monthly basis, it is recommended that funding for TCA software be included in the 2012 financial plan.

SCOPE OF WORK:

Individual analysis is performed by each Director.

ALTERNATIVES:

n/a

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS:

Keeping Council informed of the financial status of the organization.

LEGAL IMPLICATIONS:

This is a snap-shot of the Town finances for a point in time. No accruals have been made. Payments and deposits continue to be received which will change the financial figures. These statements are not audited.

CITIZEN/PUBLIC RELATIONS IMPLICATIONS:

The public is encouraged to review the report and provide comment.

INTERDEPARTMENTAL INVOLVEMENT/IMPLICATIONS:

Coordination among the various departments to ensure all revenues and expenses are allocated properly and received by the Finance Department.

RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS:

The format of this report will evolve. Additional analysis time may be required by the Finance Department.

ALIGNMENT WITH SUSTAINABILITY VISIONING REPORT:

n/a

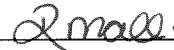
ALIGNMENT WITH STRATEGIC PRIORITIES:

This is within the Town strategy of "Wise Financial Management".

SUMMARY:

The financial information up to the end of September is included in this report. It is recommended that the Government Services Committee receives this report.

I concur with the recommendation.



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Ruth Malli, City Manager

ATTACHMENTS:

Consolidated Statement of Operations  
Consolidated Statement of Financial Position  
Consolidated Statement of Cash Flows  
Reserve balances

Town Of Ladysmith  
Consolidated Statement of Operations  
For the period ended September 30th, 2011

|  | Actual 2011              | Budget<br>2011    |
|--|--------------------------|-------------------|
| Revenue  |                          |                   |
| Taxes - Adjusted to Municipal portion              | 7,374,079                | 7,375,630         |
| Fees and charges                                   |                          |                   |
| General  | 1,237,296                | 2,802,516         |
| Sewer (Schedule III)                               | 314,014                  | 615,300           |
| Water (Schedule III)                               | 301,793                  | 674,100           |
| MFA refund   | 0                        | 0                 |
| Return on investments                              | 72,088                   | 30,000            |
| Penalty and interest on tax                        | 120,435                  | 115,000           |
| Grants   | 1,733,136                | 3,608,655         |
| Donations, contributions and contributed property  | 189,100                  | 392,059           |
| Gain (loss) on disposal of tangible capital assets | 6,000                    | 338,707           |
| Development fees                                   | 108,075                  | 348,075           |
| Local area improvements                            | 8,922                    | 8,922             |
|  | <u>11,464,937</u>        | <u>16,308,964</u> |
| Expenditures                                       |                          |                   |
| General government services                        | 1,396,368                | 1,964,702         |
| Library  | 199,776                  | 266,368           |
| Protective services                                | 851,712                  | 1,492,683         |
| Transportation services                            | 727,186                  | 1,146,255         |
| Environmental health services                      | 277,590                  | 439,110           |
| Public health                                      | 22,086                   | 37,795            |
| Development services                               | 393,557                  | 531,426           |
| Recreation and cultural services                   | 1,362,743                | 1,940,497         |
| Parks operation services                           | 443,330                  | 629,037           |
| Sewer  | 325,801                  | 482,222           |
| Water  | 294,185                  | 459,318           |
| Reallocation of internal equipment usage           | (114,701)                | -                 |
| Amortization                                       | -                        | -                 |
| Interest, net of actuarial adjustment (Note 9)     | 176,758                  | 227,958           |
|  | <u>6,356,391</u>         | <u>9,617,371</u>  |
| Annual Surplus                                     | 5,108,546                |                   |
| Prior Years' Surplus                               | <u>78,338,499</u>        |                   |
| Accumulated Surplus - end of year                  | <u><u>83,447,045</u></u> |                   |

Town Of Ladysmith  
Consolidated Statement of Financial Position  
As at September 30th, 2011

|                               | 2011                       | 2010                       |
|-------------------------------|----------------------------|----------------------------|
| Financial Assets              |                            |                            |
| Cash and short term deposits  | 11,371,309                 | 10,129,101                 |
| Accounts receivable           | <u>2,264,463</u>           | <u>4,753,896</u>           |
|                               | <u>13,635,773</u>          | <u>14,882,997</u>          |
| Liabilities                   |                            |                            |
| Accounts payable              | 474,860                    | 2,317,293                  |
| Post-employment benefits      | 172,300                    | 172,300                    |
| Deferred revenue              | 1,308,265                  | 1,386,463                  |
| Restricted reserves           | 2,447,086                  | 2,242,345                  |
| Refundable deposits and other | 380,148                    | 348,902                    |
| Long term debt                | <u>3,135,633</u>           | <u>3,211,321</u>           |
|                               | <u>7,918,291</u>           | <u>9,678,624</u>           |
| Net Financial Assets          | <u>5,717,482</u>           | <u>5,204,373</u>           |
| Non-Financial Assets          |                            |                            |
| Tangible Capital Assets       | 77,607,228                 | 72,978,203                 |
| Prepays                       | 20,887                     | 46,514                     |
| Inventory                     | 101,448                    | 109,409                    |
|                               | <u>77,729,563</u>          | <u>73,134,126</u>          |
| Accumulated Surplus           | <u><u>\$83,447,045</u></u> | <u><u>\$78,338,499</u></u> |

Town Of Ladysmith  
Consolidated Statement of Cash Flows  
As at September 30th, 2011

|  |               |
|--|---------------|
| Operations   |               |
| Net operating revenue  | \$ 5,108,546  |
| Less non-cash items:   |               |
| Amortization   | -             |
| Loss (gain) on disposal of tangible capital assets                 | (6,000)       |
| Contribution to Parkland   |               |
| Changes in non-cash items:   |               |
| Accounts receivable  | 2,489,433     |
| Accounts payable, accrued liabilities and post-employment benefits | (1,842,433)   |
| Inventory and prepaid expenses                                     | 33,588        |
| Deferred revenues  | (78,198)      |
| Restricted reserves  | 204,741       |
| Refundable deposits and other                                      | 31,246        |
| Net increase (decrease) in cash from operations                    | 5,940,922     |
| Capital Transactions   |               |
| Cash used to acquire tangible capital assets                       | (4,604,268)   |
| Financing  |               |
| Repayment of long-term debt  | (94,445)      |
| Increase in Cash and Short Term Deposits                           | 1,242,208     |
| Cash and Short Term Deposits - Beginning of Year                   | 10,129,101    |
| Cash and Short Term Deposits - End of Year                         | \$ 11,371,309 |

Reserve & Appropriated Equity Balances  
As at September 30<sup>th</sup>, 2011

| Restricted Reserves         |              |
|-----------------------------|--------------|
| DCC – Water                 | 603,606      |
| DCC – Parks                 | 229,450      |
| DCC – Roads                 | 500,721      |
| DCC – Sewer                 | 47,303       |
| DCC – Storm                 | 310,092      |
| Parking                     | 57,025       |
| Gas Tax                     | 673,115      |
| Green Streets               | 1,371        |
| Amphitheatre                | 11,604       |
| Trolley                     | 7,288        |
| Capital                     | <u>5,510</u> |
| Total Restricted            | \$2,447,086  |
| Other Reserves              | \$195,816    |
| General Appropriated Equity | \$1,321,743  |
| Water Appropriated Equity   | \$743,605    |
| Sewer Appropriated Equity   | \$2,730,774  |

Amounts do not reflect budgeted allocations.





# TOWN OF LADYSMITH

Building Permit Summary - September 2011

| Month | Commercial     |           | Industrial     |        | Institutional  |             | Residential (NEW)        |           | Residential Addcs, Renos, Other |           | Dwelling Units | Total Permits | Blgd & Plbg Permit Fees This Month | Permit Values This Month | Permit Values Year to Date 2011 |
|-------|----------------|-----------|----------------|--------|----------------|-------------|--------------------------|-----------|---------------------------------|-----------|----------------|---------------|------------------------------------|--------------------------|---------------------------------|
|       | No. of Permits | Values    | No. of Permits | Values | No. of Permits | Values      | No. of Permits (new/res) | Values    | No. of Permits                  | Values    |                |               |                                    |                          |                                 |
| SEP   | 1              | \$400,000 | 0              | \$0    | 1              | \$1,074,797 | 2                        | \$331,664 | 7                               | \$255,990 | 2              | 11            | \$12,250                           | \$2,062,451              | \$7,745,504                     |

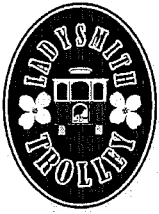
## Year to Date

|       |   |           |   |     |   |             |    |             |    |           |    |     |          |             |             |
|-------|---|-----------|---|-----|---|-------------|----|-------------|----|-----------|----|-----|----------|-------------|-------------|
| JAN   | 0 | \$0       | 0 | \$0 | 0 | \$0         | 3  | \$452,202   | 7  | \$50,160  | 3  | 10  | \$4,205  | \$502,362   | \$502,362   |
| FEB   | 0 | \$0       | 0 | \$0 | 0 | \$0         | 5  | \$784,204   | 11 | \$105,080 | 5  | 16  | \$5,367  | \$889,284   | \$1,391,646 |
| MAR   | 2 | \$90,000  | 0 | \$0 | 2 | \$20,000    | 2  | \$231,660   | 6  | \$213,900 | 2  | 12  | \$4,091  | \$555,560   | \$1,947,206 |
| APR   | 2 | \$202,200 | 0 | \$0 | 0 | \$0         | 1  | \$160,920   | 4  | \$56,184  | 2  | 7   | \$3,043  | \$419,304   | \$2,366,510 |
| MAY   | 0 | \$0       | 0 | \$0 | 0 | \$0         | 9  | \$1,256,620 | 14 | \$81,680  | 9  | 23  | \$10,773 | \$1,338,300 | \$3,704,810 |
| JUN   | 1 | \$60      | 0 | \$0 | 0 | \$0         | 7  | \$1,146,082 | 5  | \$31,900  | 7  | 13  | \$9,641  | \$1,178,042 | \$4,882,852 |
| JUL   | 0 | \$0       | 0 | \$0 | 0 | \$0         | 3  | \$455,262   | 9  | \$60,630  | 3  | 12  | \$4,254  | \$515,892   | \$5,398,744 |
| AUG   | 0 | \$0       | 0 | \$0 | 0 | \$0         | 6  | \$274,349   | 2  | \$4,960   | 6  | 9   | \$1,771  | \$284,309   | \$5,683,053 |
| SEP   | 1 | \$400,000 | 0 | \$0 | 1 | \$1,074,797 | 2  | \$331,664   | 7  | \$255,990 | 3  | 11  | \$12,250 | \$2,062,451 | \$7,745,504 |
| OCT   |   |           |   |     |   |             |    |             |    |           |    |     |          |             |             |
| NOV   |   |           |   |     |   |             |    |             |    |           |    |     |          |             |             |
| DEC   |   |           |   |     |   |             |    |             |    |           |    |     |          |             |             |
| TOTAL | 6 | \$692,260 | 0 | \$0 | 3 | \$1,094,797 | 38 | \$5,092,963 | 65 | \$860,484 | 40 | 113 | \$55,395 | \$7,745,504 |             |

| Demos Mth | #DU | Value | Demos YTD | Value |
|-----------|-----|-------|-----------|-------|
|           | 0   |       | 0         |       |

| Comparison | #DU | Value       | #BP | Value        |
|------------|-----|-------------|-----|--------------|
| YTD 2011   | 40  | \$5,092,963 | 113 | \$7,745,504  |
| YTD 2010   | 59  | \$8,991,151 | 110 | \$13,236,163 |
| YTD 2009   | 36  | \$4,835,149 | 102 | \$9,201,569  |

Tom Skarvig, Building Inspector



**TOWN OF LADYSMITH**  
**TROLLEY BUS ACTIVITY REPORT - Trolleys 103/105**  
**September 2011**

| Day          | Date | Passenger Count | Fuel Litres | KM Start | KM Finish | Weather        | Wheel Chairs | Service Dogs | Bikes     |
|--------------|------|-----------------|-------------|----------|-----------|----------------|--------------|--------------|-----------|
| Thurs        | 1    | 81              | 76          | 117028   | 117245    | Sun/Cloud/Rain | 1            | 0            | 2         |
| Fri          | 2    | 72              | 74          | 117245   | 117460    | Sun            | 0            | 0            | 4         |
| Sat          | 3    | 62              | 75          | 117460   | 117674    | Sun            | 0            | 0            | 3         |
| Sun          | 4    |                 |             |          |           |                |              |              |           |
| Mon          | 5    | STAT            |             |          |           |                |              |              |           |
| Tue          | 6    | 113             | 86          | 117674   | 117893    | Sun            | 1            | 0            | 6         |
| Wed          | 7    | 73              | 98          | 84135    | 84352     | Sun            | 0            | 0            | 2         |
| Thurs        | 8    | 81              | 96          | 84352    | 84559     | Sun            | 1            | 0            | 4         |
| Fri          | 9    | 76              | 87          | 84559    | 84766     | Sun            | 0            | 0            | 2         |
| Sat          | 10   | 67              | 85          | 84766    | 84970     | Sun            | 0            | 0            | 4         |
| Sun          |      |                 |             |          |           |                |              |              |           |
| Mon          | 11   | 84              | 87          | 84971    | 85177     | Sun            | 0            | 0            | 2         |
| Tue          | 12   | 89              | 106         | 117975   | 118187    | Cloud          | 0            | 0            | 3         |
| Wed          | 14   | 64              | 63          | 118187   | 118400    | Cloud          | 0            | 1            | 4         |
| Thurs        | 15   | 104             | 57          | 118429   | 118560    | Sun/Cloud/Rain | 0            | 0            | 3         |
| Fri          | 16   | 63              | 58          | 118560   | 118770    | Sun/Cloud      | 0            | 0            | 2         |
| Sat          | 17   | 43              | 63          | 118770   | 118977    | Sun/Cloud/Rain | 0            | 0            | 2         |
| Sun          |      |                 |             |          |           |                |              |              |           |
| Mon          | 18   | 82              | 88          | 118977   | 119187    | Sun/Cloud      | 0            | 0            | 1         |
| Tue          | 19   | 89              | 72          | 119187   | 119395    | Sun            | 0            | 0            | 2         |
| Wed          | 21   | 72              | 68          | 119395   | 119603    | Sun/Cloud/Rain | 0            | 0            | 4         |
| Thurs        | 22   | 58              | 80          | 119603   | 119809    | Cloud/Rain     | 2            | 0            | 2         |
| Fri          | 23   | 82              | 59          | 119809   | 120018    | Sun/Cloud/Rain | 0            | 0            | 2         |
| Sat          | 24   | 67              | 69          | 120018   | 120266    | Sun/Cloud      | 0            | 0            | 2         |
| Sun          |      |                 |             |          |           |                |              |              |           |
| Mon          | 25   | 65              | 69          | 120226   | 120436    | Rain           | 0            | 0            | 0         |
| Tue          | 26   | 60              | 91          | 120436   | 120644    | Sun/Cloud/Rain | 0            | 0            | 1         |
| Wed          | 28   | 64              | 75          | 120644   | 120853    | Cloud/Rain     | 0            | 0            | 3         |
| Thurs        | 29   | 61              | 76          | 120853   | 121061    | Sun/Cloud      | 0            | 0            | 2         |
| Fri          | 30   | 89              | 64          | 121061   | 121270    | Cloud/Rain     | 0            | 0            | 0         |
| <b>TOTAL</b> |      | <b>1861</b>     | <b>1922</b> |          |           |                | <b>5</b>     | <b>1</b>     | <b>62</b> |

DONATIONS FOR Sept 2011 - 1183.15

DONATIONS YEAR-TO-DATE \$7301.22

AVERAGE DAILY RIDER COUNT FOR Sept 2011 - 74



# Ladysmith Fire / Rescue

P.O. Box 760 Ladysmith, B.C. V9G 1A5  
 Phone: 250-245-6436 • Fax: 250-245-0917



## FIRE CHIEF'S REPORT

MONTH: **September , 2011**

| TYPE OF CALL OUT                          | J         | F         | M         | A         | M         | J         | J         | A         | S         | O | N | D | YEAR'S TOTALS |
|---|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|---|---|---|---------------|
| Alarms Activated: Pulled Station          |           |           | 1         |           |           |           |           |           | 1         |   |   |   | 2             |
| By mistake                                |           | 2         | 3         |           | 3         |           |           |           |           |   |   |   | 8             |
| Electrical problem                        | 4         | 1         |           | 1         | 2         |           | 4         | 3         | 2         |   |   |   | 17            |
| Due to cooking                            |           | 1         |           | 1         | 1         | 2         | 2         |           | 1         |   |   |   | 8             |
| Assistance                                |           |           |           |           |           |           |           | 1         |           |   |   |   | 1             |
| Burning Complaint                         |           |           |           |           | 1         | 9         |           | 1         | 1         |   |   |   | 12            |
| Fire: Structure                           | 2         | 1         |           |           | 1         | 1         | 2         | 3         |           |   |   |   | 10            |
| Chimney                                   | 3         |           | 2         |           |           |           | 1         |           |           |   |   |   | 6             |
| Interface / Bush                          |           |           |           |           | 1         | 2         |           |           |           |   |   |   | 3             |
| Vehicle                                   |           | 2         | 1         |           |           |           | 1         | 3         |           |   |   |   | 7             |
| Other                                     | 1         |           |           | 1         | 2         |           | 5         | 1         | 1         |   |   |   | 11            |
| Hazardous Materials                       | 2         | 1         |           | 2         | 1         | 1         |           |           | 2         |   |   |   | 9             |
| Hydro Lines: Down / Fire                  | 2         |           | 1         |           |           |           |           |           |           |   |   |   | 3             |
| Medical Aid                               | 4         | 1         | 2         | 5         | 1         |           | 3         | 1         |           |   |   |   | 17            |
| Mutual Aid                                | 1         |           | 1         |           | 1         |           |           |           | 1         |   |   |   | 4             |
| MVI                                       | 3         | 2         | 4         | 1         | 3         | 2         | 3         | 2         | 2         |   |   |   | 22            |
| Rescue                                    |           |           |           | 2         |           |           |           | 2         |           |   |   |   | 4             |
| <b>MONTH TOTALS (not incl. Practises)</b> | <b>22</b> | <b>11</b> | <b>15</b> | <b>13</b> | <b>17</b> | <b>17</b> | <b>21</b> | <b>17</b> | <b>11</b> |   |   |   | <b>144</b>    |
| Practises (Totals for each Month)         | 4         | 4         | 5         | 4         | 5         | 4         | 4         | 5         | 4         |   |   |   | 39            |

### ALARMS ACTIVATED (location/owner):

- Alarms activated 385 Davis Rd. Gulf View Estates (sensor problem)
- Alarms activated 621 Oakwood (burnt food)
- Alarms activated 1127 -4<sup>th</sup> Ave. Lodge on 4<sup>th</sup> (fault in alarm panel)
- Alarms activated 810-6<sup>th</sup> Ave. Community Centre FJCC (pulled station)

### COMPARISONS:

Year to Date / 11 144 (excl. practises)

Year to Date / 10 125 (excl. practises)

Year to Date / 09 118 (excl. practises)

APPROVED:

*Ray Delcourt*  
 Fire Chief

**COASTAL ANIMAL CONTROL SERVICES OF BC LTD**

2202 Herd Rd. Duncan, BC. V9L 6A6

(250) 748-3395

**TOWN OF LADYSMITH POUND REPORT**

September 2011

| <b>Disposition of Impounded Dogs</b>          | <b>Current Month</b> | <b>2011 Totals</b> |          |
|---|----------------------|--------------------|----------|
| Stray dogs impounded                          | 3                    | 18                 |          |
| Stray dogs claimed                            | 3                    | 17                 |          |
| Stray dogs put up for adoption                | 0                    | 1                  |          |
| Stray dogs euthanized                         | 0                    | 0                  |          |
| Stray livestock / cats                        | 0                    | 0                  |          |
| Other   | 0                    | 0                  |          |
| <b>Calls Received and Investigated</b>        | <b>10</b>            | <b>90</b>          |          |
| Aggressive dogs                               | 1                    | 14                 |          |
| Dogs at large                                 | 2                    | 26                 |          |
| Confined dog                                  | 2                    | 15                 |          |
| Noise (barking) complaints                    | 3                    | 17                 |          |
| Other non specific dog related calls          | 2                    | 16                 |          |
| Wildlife / livestock / cats                   | 0                    | 2                  |          |
| <b>After hour call outs</b>                   | <b>0</b>             | <b>4</b>           |          |
| <b>Monthly Pound and Board Fees Collected</b> | <b>\$210.00</b>      | <b>\$1770.00</b>   |          |
| Impound fees                                  | \$150.00             | \$1300.00          |          |
| Daily board fees                              | \$60.00              | \$470.00           |          |
| <b>Tickets issued</b>                         | <b>0</b>             | <b>5</b>           |          |
| Unlicenced dog                                | \$00.00              | \$200.00           |          |
| Dog at large                                  | \$00.00              | \$200.00           |          |
| Dangerous dog not muzzled (12e)               | \$0                  | \$250.00           |          |
| Habitually noisy                              | \$0                  | \$0                |          |
| <b>Licencing Statistics</b>                   | Tags                 | 2                  | 26       |
|   | Revenue              | \$60.00            | \$720.00 |

Judi Burnett

RECEIVED  
OCT 06 2011

# CAS Summary of Service Calls, Ladysmith

10 calls in total

01-Sep-11 to 30-Sep-11

| Issue             | Call # | Received  | Type | Completed |
|-------------------|--------|-----------|------|-----------|
| <b>Aggressive</b> |        | <b>1</b>  |      |           |
|                   | 903    | 02-Sep-11 | Dog  | 13-Sep-11 |
| <b>At large</b>   |        | <b>2</b>  |      |           |
|                   | 910    | 28-Sep-11 | Dog  | 30-Sep-11 |
|                   | 905    | 16-Sep-11 | Dog  | 16-Sep-11 |
| <b>Confined</b>   |        | <b>2</b>  |      |           |
|                   | 909    | 27-Sep-11 | Dog  | 28-Sep-11 |
|                   | 904    | 14-Sep-11 | Dog  | 16-Sep-11 |
| <b>Noisy</b>      |        | <b>3</b>  |      |           |
|                   | 908    | 22-Sep-11 | Dog  | 23-Sep-11 |
|                   | 907    | 20-Sep-11 | Dog  | 27-Sep-11 |
|                   | 902    | 01-Sep-11 | Dog  | 13-Sep-11 |
| <b>Other</b>      |        | <b>2</b>  |      |           |
|                   | 911    | 28-Sep-11 | Dog  | 29-Sep-11 |
|                   | 906    | 16-Sep-11 | Dog  | 26-Sep-11 |



**mbudsperson**  
B.C.'s Independent Voice For Fairness

Closing meetings to the public; Fairness and Best Practices  
UBCM Convention Clinic

Wednesday, September 28, 2011

Kim Carter  
Bruce Clarke  
Dave Murray

Contact:  
1-800-567-3247  
www.bcombudsperson.ca

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### *Role of the Ombudsperson's Office*

- Specific complaints
- '... generally oversee the administrative actions of government authorities with a view to upholding the democratic principles of openness, transparency and accountability.'

(Report of the Special Committee to Appoint an Ombudsman, Legislative Assembly of British Columbia, Second Session, Thirty-Eighth Parliament, April 26, 2006, page 1)

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### *Jurisdiction*

- Provincial ministries
- Provincial boards and commissions (i.e. WorkSafeBC)
- Provincial Crown corporations (i.e. BC Hydro)
- Schools, school boards, colleges, universities
- Hospitals and regional health boards
- Various pension boards of trustees
- Miscellaneous authorities (i.e. professional associations)
- Municipalities, regional districts, Islands Trust, etc.

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### *Numbers of Enquiries and Complaints*

Overall: 8,344 intakes in 2009/10 fiscal year

Percentage of jurisdictional files opened  
(municipalities and regional districts combined)

- 2010/11: 7%
- 2009/10: 8%
- 2008/09: 9%

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### *Complaint Themes*

- Bylaw enforcement (or lack thereof)
- Consultation processes
- Charges for services
- Lack of timely communication
- Not providing expected service
- Transparency of decision-making processes

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### *Transparency of Decision Making: Why is this important to you?*

- enhances public confidence and the organization's credibility
- ensures substantive validity of decisions is not undermined by procedural errors
- saves the cost of remedying errors
- reduces potential for litigation
- limits complaints to the Ombudsperson

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*Outline of topics to be covered*

- What is a meeting?
- Current requirements
- Section 90 of the Community Charter
- Best practices
  - Providing Notice
  - Closing a meeting
  - Conducting a closed meeting
  - Releasing information

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*What is a meeting?*

The **key** would appear to be whether the **councillors** are requested to **attend** (or do, in fact, attend without summons) a **function** at which matters which would **ordinarily** form the **basis of Council's business are dealt with** in such a way as to **move them materially along** the way in the overall spectrum of a Council decision. In other words, is the public being deprived of the opportunity to observe a material part of the decision-making process?

*Southam Inc. v. Ottawa (City) Council, 1991 5 O.R. (3d) 726*

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*Indicators of a Meeting*

- presence of a quorum
- location of the meeting
- timing of the meeting
- formality of procedure followed
- voting
- *deal with matters in a way that moves them materially toward a council decision*

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*Your experience*

Have you used or developed policy or training materials that help to clarify what constitutes a meeting? If so, we'd like to hear from you.

Bruce Clarke (250) 356-5723  
bclarke@bcombudsperson.ca

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*Section 89 of the Community Charter*

89 (1) A meeting of a council must be open to the public, except as provided in this Division.

(2) A council must not vote on the reading or adoption of a bylaw when its meeting is closed to the public.

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*Subsection 127(3)*

127 (3) The notice under subsection (2) must include the date, time and place of the meeting, describe in general terms the purpose of meeting and be signed by the mayor or the corporate officer.

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*Section 90*

**90** (1) A part of a council meeting **may** be closed to the public if the subject matter being considered relates to or is one or more of the following: ...

(2) A part of a council meeting **must** be closed to the public if the subject matter being considered relates to one or more of the following: ...

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*Section 92*

**92** Before holding a meeting or part of a meeting that is to be closed to the public, a council must state, by resolution passed in a public meeting,

- (a) the fact that the meeting or part is to be closed, and
- (b) the basis under the applicable subsection of section 90 on which the meeting or part is to be closed.

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*Paragraph 90(1)(n)*

**90** (1) A part of a council meeting may be closed to the public if the subject matter being considered relates to or is one or more of the following:

- (n) the consideration of whether a council meeting should be closed under a provision of this subsection or subsection (2);

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*Paragraph 90(1)(g)*

- 90** (1) A part of a council meeting may be closed to the public if the subject matter being considered relates to or is one or more of the following:
- (g) litigation or potential litigation affecting the municipality;

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*Your experience*

Have you established policy or guidelines that help to clarify when it is appropriate to close a meeting under paragraph 90(1)(g)? If so, we would like to hear from you.

Bruce Clarke (250) 356-5723  
bclarke@bcombudsperson.ca

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*Paragraph 90(1)(l)*

- 90** (1) A part of a council meeting may be closed to the public if the subject matter being considered relates to or is one or more of the following:
- (l) discussions with municipal officers and employees respecting municipal objectives, measures and progress reports for the purposes of preparing an annual report under section 98 [*annual municipal report*];

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*Briefings to Council:  
More or less likely a meeting*

**More likely**

- Decision making, informal votes
- Direction to staff by council
- Debate or discussion of issues or opinions by councillors regarding matters before council or within their jurisdiction
- Discussion of confidential matters that would otherwise require closure of a meeting for discussion

**Less Likely**

- Information/updates only
- No discussion by council that may advance decision-making process
- Questions by councillors to clarify info provided
- Information provided at briefing included in report to council or otherwise made available through public meetings

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*Your experience*

If you have information about how briefings to council are conducted in a way that is consistent with the open meeting provisions in the Community Charter, we would like to hear from you.

Bruce Clarke (250) 356-5723  
bclarke@bcombudsperson.ca

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*Outline: Best practices*

- Providing notice
- Closing a meeting
- Conducting a closed meeting
- Releasing information following a closed meeting

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*Best practices: Notice*

- provide option for automatic e-mail notice of all meetings
- include general information concerning the purpose of the meeting in notices of special closed meetings
- use special authority to waive notice only when the urgency or other exceptional circumstances are clear and document the reasons

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*Best Practices: Closing the meeting*

- Use section 90(1)(n) to determine whether it is necessary to close a meeting
- Provide as much detail as possible about the basis for closing the meeting
- Include in the resolution to close a meeting a description of each distinct matter to be discussed and the authorizing provision
- Read the resolution to close a meeting aloud

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*Resolution to close a meeting*

- Three components:
  - The fact that a meeting or part of a meeting is to be closed;
  - The basis on which the meeting is to be closed; and,
  - the specific paragraph of section 90 that requires or authorizes the closure.

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*Best Practices: During Closed Meetings*

- Keep discussion focused on subjects that were authorized by the resolution
- Do not vote on the reading or adoption of bylaws.
- Whenever possible, avoid passing resolutions.
- Take detailed minutes and ensure that the names of all persons in attendance are recorded.

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*Best Practices: After the Meeting*

- Establish a process to:
  - periodically review minutes and any other information generated at closed meetings; and ,
  - release information once doing so would not undermine the reason for closing the meeting.

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**Five key messages**

- Be careful not to let your gathering become a meeting
- Carefully consider when to exercise your discretion to close meetings
- Remember that some level of disclosure is required in respect of all council meetings
- Take advantage of best practices
- Properly following the open meeting provisions is important for your community

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*Questions*

**CONTACT US:**

Bruce Clarke (250) 366-5723  
[bclarke@bcombudsperson.ca](mailto:bclarke@bcombudsperson.ca)

[www.bcombudsperson.ca](http://www.bcombudsperson.ca)

PO BOX 9039 STN PROV GOVT  
VICTORIA, BC V8W 9A5

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**From:** Thistle [Thistle@shaw.ca]  
**Sent:** September 27, 2011 8:11 PM  
**To:** info  
**Subject:** Letter, and Request to Council & Elected Representatives  
**Attachments:** Green Gateway to VI, MISSI ltr to gov't, s27'11.doc; NMCA - Bio Rsrv, Minister's ltr, jn7'11.doc; Bio Rsrv - Coastal Communities Proposal, Mid Island leaflet, winter'2011.pdf



Town of Ladysmith  
PO Box 220, 410 Esplanade  
Ladysmith, BC  
V9G 1A2  
[Info@ladysmith.ca](mailto:Info@ladysmith.ca)

Dear Sir/Madame,

We have sent a letter to the Board of the Regional District of Nanaimo, with related documents that outline our proposal for a 'Green Gateway to Vancouver Island" (attached). We are also in the process of contacting local and senior governments within the coastal region, as well as public institutions and private agencies that may have interest in advancing such measures.

We would then similarly request that the Town of Ladysmith, governing adjacent coastal lands and waters to the RDN, consider this proposal and the potential afforded for jobs, growth and green spaces. We believe that the new partnership opportunities we have recommended, offer many benefits, and would encourage your consideration and support for this proposal.

We are requesting that our letter and the accompanying documents be brought to the attention of Council and elected representatives, and can be available to meet and present an overview. Should you have questions, or wish additional information, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Thank you.

Laurie Gourlay

President, Mid Island Sustainability & Stewardship Initiative  
P.O. Box 333, Cedar, B.C., V9X 1W1  
(250 722-3444) [www.missimidisland.com](http://www.missimidisland.com) <[info@missimidisland.com](mailto:info@missimidisland.com)>

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~~~~~  
"All would be better off if each person took into account the effect of his or her acts upon others."  
World Commission on Environment & Development  
~~~ Our Common Future, 1987 ~~~  
~~~~~



**B**iosphere Reserves are 'working areas' where jobs and economic activities are advanced within a framework of long-term prosperity and sustainability.

Furthering economic development while addressing social costs and benefits, builds a solid foundation for biosphere reserves.

## **Economic & Ecological Sustainability**

*...thinking globally, acting locally.*

Balanced growth furthers community and sustainability ...fostering locally-appropriate, low-cost solutions. We address our regional interests, needs, and common goals together.

The net worth of biosphere reserves, and a transition to sustainability, can be seen in the cooperative, healthy and ecological benefits that are incrementally put in place.

Conservation efforts are integrated into local community, government and business plans, growing with our neighbourhoods.

A cooperative approach, biosphere reserves help public, private and government interests work together for us all...



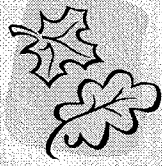
## **A Necklace of Historical, Cultural & Natural Pearls...**

*Consider the possibility of a mid island UNESCO biosphere reserve and buffer, from the Southern Gulf Islands National Marine Park to Ladysmith Harbour to Nanaimo estuary ...& points between.*

Parks, walkways and heritage features would provide major eco-tourist and economic benefits. Waterfront, marine environment and harbour developments would be improved with shoreline, wildlife, conservation and natural resource goals in mind.

### **\*Three Key Goals Balance a Biosphere Reserve:**

- **Economic**
- **Social**
- **Environmental**



A designated UNESCO Biosphere Reserve would help protect Vancouver Island's biodiversity and habitat, fostering interest in the protection of special places and species in the mid region — and our 'pearls' of historical, cultural & natural importance.

Please consider adding your voice to this initiative, a living and lasting legacy for VI coastal communities.

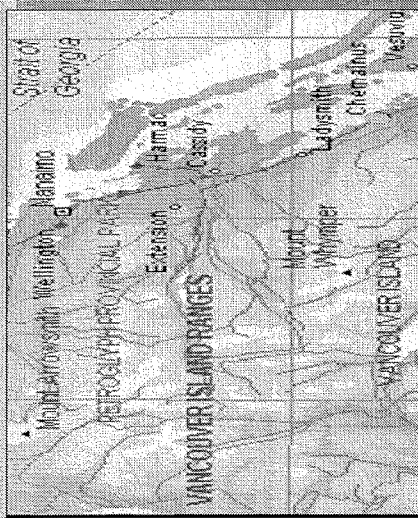
Please direct inquiries to: *Mid Island Sustainability & Stewardship Initiative*, <[www.missimidisland.com](http://www.missimidisland.com)>

## **A 'Coastal Biosphere Reserve Vancouver Island, BC**

**...Ladysmith**

**...Cedar**

**... Yellowpoint**



**Special Places,  
Diverse Communities,  
Green Lands & Blue Seas.**

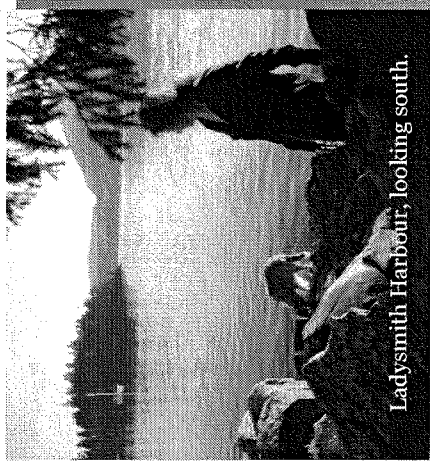
# Leadership in Conservation and Sustainable Development!



This innovative initiative began in 2006 with a discussion about the need to foster long-term economic and ecological solutions for community planning and development in the mid island region.

We wanted to retain special places that were close to home, and to keep those recreational, heritage and green spaces that are nearby -so we could all continue to enjoy them.

This biosphere reserve proposal opens the door to solutions, to further steps we might take together to share our coastal beauty, quality of life, and a sustainable economy that supports mid island communities and Vancouver Island.



Ladysmith Harbour, looking south.

## The... 'Coastal Communities' Biosphere Reserve A proposal for Vancouver Island Ladysmith... Yellowpoint... Cedar...

This sustainable, economically-rewarding, job-creating and conservation-oriented working reserve for the mid island region would encompass the lands and seas that extend along the narrow east coast of Vancouver Island, between the coastal mountain range and Gulf Islands.

From the rural countryside south of Ladysmith to southern urban boundaries of Nanaimo the green lands, marine waters, communities and towns would be invited to join and become a part of a larger UNESCO Biosphere plan.

...more information about this proposal, upcoming meetings as well as opportunities to get involved, can be found by contacting the Mid Island Sustainability & Stewardship Initiative, P.O. Box 333, Cedar, B.C., V9X 1W1

(250) 722-3444, (midislandcommunities@shaw.ca) <[www.missimidisland.com](http://www.missimidisland.com)>

(Winter, 2011)

## Your Comments...

Please feel free to jot down any thoughts or ideas, and forward to:

Mid Island Sustainability & Stewardship Initiative  
Laurie Gourlay - MISSI President, P.O. Box 333,  
Cedar, B.C., V9X 1W1, <[www.missimidisland.com](http://www.missimidisland.com)>  
(e-mail: [midislandcommunities@shaw.ca](mailto:midislandcommunities@shaw.ca))

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**W**e encourage all who love Vancouver Island's beauty and welcoming spirit to consider the protection of special places, and to contribute to our quality of life, to sustainable development, and to the betterment of the places where we live, work and play!

Talk with friends and family about the pearls you find important to your community ...and along Vancouver Island's east coast.

And look for ways to keep these special places, the paths and trails between — so we'll all get to enjoy them and the treasures they hide.

Please consider supporting this proposal for a mid island 'Coastal Communities' Biosphere Reserve.

And if you get a chance send us a picture of yourself, out there — having fun!





RDN, Committee of the Whole  
Regional District of Nanaimo  
6300 Hammond Bay Road  
Nanaimo, BC, V9T 6N2

re: Partnership in 'A Green Gateway to Vancouver Island '  
...Regional and Local Planning, Sustainable Communities and Growth

cc: Local, Provincial & Federal Governments  
...with responsibilities for mid Vancouver Island & the Strait of Georgia

September 27, 2011

Dear RDN Board Members,

Owing to the nature of this partnership proposal we are sending a copy of our letter to local governments on Vancouver Island, as well as to the City of Vancouver and Victoria, and senior governments. We hope this will lead to support from the RDN, and development of a 'Green Gateway to Vancouver Island'.

We believe exciting opportunities lie ahead for our coastal region, and that this proposal captures essential elements of both short and long term growth and benefits to residents.

With a federal economic plan being debated in the House of Commons at this time, and BC's Premier unveiling job priorities in a tour of the province, it is reasonable to consider regional partnerships that might be encouraged to meet both local needs and larger goals.

Here in the mid island the chair of the Regional District of Nanaimo has noted that growth in recent years has been twice the national average, and is expected to continue. This can be seen as good news, given global financial worries, but also brings new challenges.

MISSI would like to propose an approach that enhances economic development through partnerships with prominent Island institutions and organizations, and all levels of governments responsible for the mid island, coast and Strait of Georgia. We believe this can be done while protecting green spaces, and integrating conservation measures and practices.

In this respect we note that we have recently been in touch with federal and provincial Environment Ministers, and related Departments responsible for a proposal to designate a National Marine Conservation Area (NMCA) in the southern Georgia Strait and Gulf Islands. (attached)

We would like to offer our support in furthering this NMCA proposal, and to suggest that local initiatives offer opportunities that complement and further the goals of a Gulf Islands National Marine Conservation Area - as well as economic, growth and employment needs.

Three components, addressed in our brief, 'A Green Gateway to Vancouver Island', include:

- a National Marine Conservation Area, harbouring Nanaimo River's estuary.
- a 'Coastal Communities Biosphere Reserve', buffering local watersheds.
- economic partnerships with Victoria & Vancouver's 'Green City' initiatives.

The underlying premise of the 'Green Gateway' proposal is to maintain 'working areas' in the coastal region, where sustainability serves as the bottom line while jobs and economic activities are furthered. Sustainability is seen as a fair system of economic development and environmental protection that fosters long-term social and community benefits. As such, working with partners in cooperative ventures is essential.

We are pleased to report that the first two components of the plan were adopted as recommendations this past weekend at the Nanaimo River Symposium, hosted by NALT and held at VIU.

Briefly then, since we can provide additional information at your request, we would like to suggest that the mid island and coastal region lends itself to renewable resources, and that conservation and coastal protective measures offer opportunities for long-term growth. We believe economic diversity and commercial opportunities will expand if we consider options for larger regional partnerships and cooperation that share green goals for growth.

While governments may be moving forward with initiatives that address economic policy and sustainability performance, within their jurisdictions and communities there remains a 'larger picture' that must be addressed. Factors such as climate change and peak oil also require priority attention if future impacts are to be minimized and managed successfully.

The lands and waters of our shared coastal regions, and our quality of life, require such long-term approaches if we are to meet public, corporate and ecological bottom lines. Maintaining healthy, functioning watersheds and ecosystems is the most cost-effective and practical way to ensure that our common needs are met, and opportunities for growth retained for future generations.

With this in mind MISSI has been undertaking work locally to encourage a Coastal Communities Biosphere Reserve in the lands, and adjoining marine areas, encompassing the Nanaimo River watershed and southern Gulf Islands. (attached)

And our 'Green Gateway to Vancouver Island' initiative goes a step further, suggesting a corridor linkage between cities, across the coastal range. From the heavy industrial, ferry and shipping facilities at Duke Point, a green corridor would connect Cedar and Yellowpoint, the Nanaimo River watershed and a series of 'pocket' resource, conservation and alpine protected areas, wrapping around the RDN in a horseshoe-like manner. From the Mt Arrowsmith Biosphere Reserve a link would be made to the historic Horne Lake Trail, and over to Port Alberni's deep port and resource-based facilities. In effect a 'green-belt' would be established across the middle of Vancouver Island.

This innovative approach to our 'growth challenge' would serve to attract a wide range and diversity of green businesses, recreational and tourism opportunities, benefiting the mid island and coastal regions. Partnering with Victoria's work to integrate sustainable development practices, and Vancouver's Green City' initiative, this 'Green Gateway to Vancouver Island' would further small business ventures in the emerging markets for conservation and renewable services and products.

We hope you will then look at this proposal favourably. We believe that embracing these initiatives at this time would offer exceptional rewards to all sectors and interests, and long-term benefits. Fostering connections and partnership with universities, business, civil society and leaders in all sectors of the Island, capital and lower mainland will benefit all interests and regions. And, opening a green gateway to VI offers an innovative coastal approach for sustainable growth.

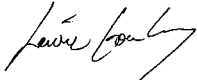
As the UN Rio+20 Brazil Conference approaches in June 2012, MISSI would then like to take this opportunity to engage with you in a conversation about conservation. We think a cooperative partnership, which puts conservation principles and practices into place, will best serve everyone's interests in our mid island coastal communities and regions.

Building on this solid foundation MISSI believes there is good reason to look forward to green growth, green jobs and a green belt for the mid island and region - establishing our coast and communities as a place for quality of life, work and business.

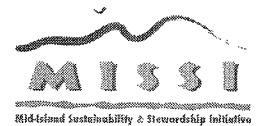
We also think the world would be pleased to hear about what our region has to offer, and so would ask for your support for our proposal for a 'Green Gateway to Vancouver Island', and we would also request the opportunity to present this proposal to you personally.

In the meantime should you have questions or wish further clarification, we'd be pleased to follow-up directly, at your request.

Regards,



Laurie Gourlay, President  
Mid Island Sustainability & Stewardship Initiative  
P.O. Box 333, Cedar, B.C., V9X 1W1  
(250 722-3444) [www.missimidisland.com](http://www.missimidisland.com) <[info@missimidisland.com](mailto:info@missimidisland.com)>



*"Each generation is entitled to the interest on the natural capital, but the principal should be handed on unimpaired."  
- Canadian Conservation Commission, 1915*



Hon. Dr. Terry Lake  
Minister of Environment  
Room 112, Parliament Buildings  
Victoria, BC, V8V 1X4  
terry.lake.mla@leg.bc.ca

Honourable Peter Kent  
Minister of the Environment  
House of Commons  
Ottawa, Ontario, K1A 0A6  
peter.kent@parl.gc.ca

Re: Gulf Islands National Marine Conservation Area

June 7, 2011

Minister Kent and Minister Lake,

We hope you're enjoying events and public support for World Oceans Day, and Canadian Environment Week!

Reports in the news suggest that the Governments of Canada and British Columbia may be in process of designating a National Marine Conservation Area in the Gulf Islands.

We would like to offer our support in furthering this work, and to raise two local considerations to your attention.

We have been in touch with Parks Canada offices, Mr. Bill Henwood, since 2007 with respect to the Gulf Islands NMCA proposal - and have provided a number of recommendations. We also believe that including local initiatives, presently underway, could offer new opportunities that complement and further the goals of a Gulf Islands National Marine Conservation Area.

Our interest, as a local organization, is to advance initiatives that serve sustainability and stewardship within the community and region. As such, working with conservation partners in cooperative ventures is essential.

In this respect we are involved with a number of conservation projects and coastal protective measures. Many of these are supportive of a local NMCA, while fostering complementary initiatives particular to the adjacent green lands of Cedar/Yellowpoint and the Nanaimo River watershed.

Without burdening you with details we would like to invite your consideration of two points at the present time. Should you wish further information we can of course make ourselves available, or provide a brief backgrounder for additional reference.

The first consideration we'd request is that of furthering estuarine benefits to the east coast of Vancouver Island by identifying the Gulf Islands NMCA northern boundary as embracing the Nanaimo River estuary.

We'd also note interest, previously expressed within the community of this area and from the Kulleet Band, for an information/educational centre in the adjacent Yellowpoint area. This centre could overlook and interpret the NMCA ...and perhaps serve for 'green corridor' and related initiatives noted below.

Our second request is based on the similarities of the process and goals for establishing a National Marine Conservation Area, and that of declaring a UNESCO Biosphere Reserve.

We would respectfully suggest that you extend your consideration of a Gulf Islands NMCA to a proposal that is underway for a neighbouring Coastal Communities Biosphere Reserve. (attached)

Combining both a marine and land-based model for conservation and sustainability, in this mid island coastal region, would be a substantial contribution to ecosystem protection - fostering conservation and sustainability goals that further economic and environmental development.

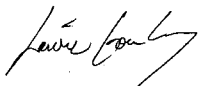
And finally, we would like to take this opportunity to extend an invitation to you or your representatives, to make a presentation about the NMCA and any related initiatives, on September 22nd. We have been planning an evening forum, open to the public, at the Vancouver Island University, just prior to BC Rivers Day. A weekend Symposium is to follow, organized by the Nanaimo and Area Land Trust, looking into opportunities for conservation in and around the Nanaimo River & watershed. Your presence would greatly enhance the success of these ventures.

We hope you may then look favourably upon these requests. The proposals offer positive means to open important conversations about conservation, and to engage the public in options to implement measures for sustainability.

The coast between Ladysmith harbour and Nanaimo harbour is one of the last large remaining rural areas of 'green lands and blue waters' in mid Vancouver Island - serving a growing population, and only a ferry's ride from the City of Vancouver. We believe that embracing these initiatives at this time would offer exceptional rewards to all sectors and interests, for the common good and long-term benefits.

Again then our best wishes in your deliberations about a Gulf Island NMCA. Should you have further questions we'd be pleased to provide details, at your request.

Regards,



Laurie Gourlay, President  
Mid Island Sustainability & Stewardship Initiative

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