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**SMALL CRAFT HARBOURS**  
**PACIFIC REGIONAL HARBOUR AUTHORITY**  
**ADVISORY COMMITTEE (PRHAAC)**

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**RECORD OF DISCUSSION**

Friday, February 26, 2016  
Boardroom A, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor, 401 Burrard Street, Vancouver, BC

**PRHAAC Members:**

Bob Baziuk, Steveston HA  
Lutz Budde, Oona River HA (by phone)  
Frank Mauro, HA of Pender Harbour  
Liz McLeod, Comox HA  
Ben Mabberley, Whaler Bay HA  
Mike Griswold, Quadra Island HA

**SCH Ex-Officio PRHAAC Members:**

Ken Smith, Regional Director  
Robin Richardson Regional Manager,  
Harbour Development

**Guests:**

Jordan Mah, Regional Manager, Client  
Services  
Holly Eksal, SCH Business Co-op Student

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**1. WELCOME AND REVIEW OF AGENDA**

- Jordan Mah, the new Acting Regional Manager of Client Services, was introduced and it was highlighted that the objective is to help improve support to SCH Client Service Officers, HA's and harbour planning.
- Mike Griswold introduced as the newest PRHAAC member.
- Ken noted interest in adding an additional member to PRHAAC in future with a priority on HA Board member with fishing industry involvement.

**2. REVIEW OF RoD and ACTION ITEMS**

- The RoD from the October 2014 meeting were previously accepted in December 2014 and posted on the DFO Consultation website.
- Deferred Action Items from the October 2014 PRHAAC meeting were discussed and will continue to be tracked for future reference / discussion when additional developments become known.

**3. DFO UPDATE**

- Key topics covered include the transition to the new government, the new minister, the new parliamentary secretary and the Minister's mandate letter which is publicly available on the internet.
- A concern was raised regarding the loss of a knowledgeable West Coast voice in the Minister's office that was previously provided by MP Randy Kamp and Assistant Dan Cody.

- It was discussed that the new government has placed a high priority on the Canadian North and building a stronger relationship between the federal government and First Nations communities. Other DFO mandate letter priorities include the government's intention to review the *Fisheries Act*, *Canadian Environmental Assessment Act*, and *Navigable Waters Act* and implement the recommendations from the Cohen Commission on Fraser Sockeye.
- Advisors requested that a senior departmental representative provide an update on the status and plans of priorities contained in the Minister's Mandate letter at the next face to face meeting.

Action Item #1: Ken Smith to invite a Departmental Representative to provide on an update on Mandate letter priorities at next PRHAAC face to face meeting

#### **4. SCH UPDATES**

- The federal budget for 2016 will be announced on March 22<sup>nd</sup>. Funding details for the SCH Program are unknown at this time. However, the Federal Infrastructure Initiative (FII) remains a top priority for the program and SCH will be starting the second of two years of FII projects in April. This program has had a significant impact on workloads for all SCH staff
- Advisors inquired as to impact of climate change on the SCH Program. It was noted that climate change be added as a future topic for PRHAAC meetings.
- Preliminary work on zonal planning was discussed with an emphasis on the need to support the needs of commercial fishing industry as a priority.
- The live-a-board review has been delayed. Advisors requested that the live-a-board policies previously provided by the District of Ucluelet be redistributed.
- A new Contribution Agreement with HAABC, very similar to the current one, is being drafted. The agreement will provide improved support for HA mentoring and legal assistance.
- The committee was informed of the changes to Program Officer harbour reassignments. Reassignments will be phased in over the next few months and affected HAs have been notified. A continuing priority for Program Officers is consultation for delivery of projects.
- Standards and designs for ladders have been identified by SCH. SCH anticipates that existing regional ladder placement issues will be fully addressed over a period of three to four years, with work already underway this fiscal.

Action Item #2: SCH Climate Change Vulnerability work to be included as a future PRHAAC agenda item.

Action Item #3: Robin Richardson to redistribute the District of Ucluelet's live-a-board policy to PRHAAC members

#### **5. LONG TERM STRATEGY**

- Discussion topics covered included elements of the long-term strategy such as improved readiness (planning, design, etc) for short-term funding infusions, other potential funding opportunities, HA capacity and zonal planning in support of the SCH mandate to meet the critical needs of the commercial fishing industry in a cost-effective manner.
- Advisors feedback included that SCH should have a clear engagement strategy, awareness of the potential perception of downloading and zonal inequities, recognition

of commercial recreational fisheries, and regional differences in fisheries and harbour operations. It was highlighted that once started SCH should complete across all zones\regions to ensure fairness.

**6. DERELICT VESSELS**

- In discussion of the NHAAC Derelict Vessel Working Group, it was noted that the National Working Group is still in preliminary stages, with no Terms of Reference yet but Elizabeth McLeod, Ken Smith and Robin Richardson have been identified as Pacific Region representatives.
- Advisor comments included consideration of the importance of local HA representation in the working group, licence buyback implications, vessel insurance requirements, clear definitions, vessel registry and inventory issues as well as success stories and best practices. It was also highlighted that initial stages should include updates from Transport Canada and Canadian Coast Guard.
- A conceptual approach was introduced to pilot test a cost-sharing contribution program with 2 HAs that do not have a lot of capacity, to assist them to remove derelict/abandoned vessels in their harbours.
- Advisors' feedback included concerns that larger HAs may also not be able to remove larger vessels, consideration should be on a case-by-case basis rather than financial need, the process should take a risk-based approach and that it is important to ensure the process isn't too cumbersome and therefore readily accessible and deliverable.

**7. HARBOUR AUTHORITY SOCIO-ECONOMIC STUDY**

- A draft Socio-Economic study on Pacific Region Small Craft Harbours was provided to committee members for discussion. Advisors commented that overall the study was very useful but concerns were expressed that the economic impact of high periods of use by fishing vessels and transient use were underestimated in applying averaging use at the harbour level.

Action Item #4: PRHAAC members to send further feedback on the draft Socio-Economic study to Robin Richardson by March 4<sup>th</sup>, 2016 for compilation of member input and conveyance to the study author.

**8. ADVISOR UPDATES**

- HAABC seminar went very well in Prince Rupert with 90 + attendees, and all workshops well received,
- Community concerns over fisheries enforcement of fisheries on lower Sunshine Coast an issue in the community
- The Harbour Authority Corporation (HAC) had policy renewals by HAs for Directors & Officers insurance this year that were higher for the \$2 million coverage per incident. Annual policy renewed for 2016 and HAC by-laws amendments were approved.

**9. WRAP-UP AND NEXT MEETING**

- Members were advised that a potential one day face-to-face next meeting may take place in June with the alternative being a conference call on the same date.

Action Item #5: Robin Richardson to canvas member availability for a tentative one-day June face to face meeting here in Vancouver.