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

RECORD OF DISCUSSION

Friday, November 4, 2016
Boardroom A, 2nd Floor, 401 Burrard Street, Vancouver, BC

PRHAAC Members:

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

Guests:

Bonnie Antcliffe, Associate Regional Director
General, Pacific Region
Cheryl Webb, Regional Director, Ecosystems
Jordan Mah, Regional Manager, Client
Services, SCH
Vahid Kahnamelli, Regional Engineer, SCH
Michelle Cho, Harbour Development Officer,
SCH

SCH Ex-Officio PRHAAC Members:

Ken Smith, Regional Director
Robin Richardson Regional Manager Harbour
Development

1. WELCOME AND REVIEW OF AGENDA

- The meeting Agenda was reviewed and adopted
- A PRHAAC conference call will be scheduled in December/ early January to provide updates after the November NHAAC Meeting.
- There was concern that the HAABC are not up to date on PRHAAC and NHAAC items and agreement that HA's should be well informed.

Action Item #1: SCH (Michelle Cho) to provide HAABC link to where records of discussion are posted for PRHAAC and NHAAC. Consider sending emails to all HAs as well.

2. REVIEW OF RoD and ACTION ITEMS

- A brief discussion of outstanding Action Items from the June 17, 2016 meeting took place. The Climate Change topic will be deferred to the next face to face meeting.

Action Item #2: SCH (Robin Richardson) to circulate the student orientation and safety checklist to PRHAAC members. Robin will ensure that the HAABC has /will share those documents with HAs more broadly.

Action Item #3: SCH (Robin Richardson) to re-circulate the link to Motion M-40 on Derelict vessels to PRHAAC members.

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3. SCH UPDATE

Ken Smith provided the following up-date to members:

- Project delivery and First Nations consultations are the current focus.
- National Issues:
 - Environmental Response and Vessels of Concern:
 - Transport Canada's broad coastal marine strategy is in development and involves of oil spill response and protection; vessels of concern will also be considered as part of the strategy;
 - National Vessels of Concern Working Group includes Transport Canada, Small Craft Harbours, and Canadian Coast Guard. The working group has discussed the need for a more detailed inventory of vessels of concern. SCH regionally and nationally will review and evaluate the Vessel of Concern pilot before developing guidelines and policy on this. SCH will report back on pilot results and lessons learned after the pilot is complete.
 - Divestiture:
 - Divestiture of non-core harbours has gained more interest/attention at a national level. Divestitures, such as the large recreational marinas in Ontario (with major infrastructure liabilities) that don't fit within the mandate will require significant multi-year divestiture funding to assist with the complexities and challenges.
 - Indigenous Developments:
 - There is an increased interest in harbours that front First Nations communities as an economic opportunity and some First Nations have expressed increased interest in assuming a greater role in management of those harbours.
 - There has been considerable work on Treaty and related processes. There is an interest in implementing short term options while waiting long term for the Treaty process.
 - National Distinction Award:
 - The Minister of Fisheries and Oceans Canada, Dominic LeBlanc, presented the National Prix d'Excellence award to Joel Baziuk from Steveston HA.
 - Canada's 150th anniversary of Confederation:
 - There is a Canada 150 Fund through Heritage Canada to support events which would allow Canadians to participate in celebrations.
- SCH Program:
 - Additional funding for the SCH program is subject to the Cabinet's interest/priorities.
- Budget 2016/17:
 - No overall budget announcement occurred in BC. Riding specific announcements occurred in Maple Ridge (Kanaka), Sunshine Coast (Gibson's) and Richmond (Steveston).
 - Ashraf Amlani is the new west coast policy advisor (Minister's advisor) in Ottawa and does not have an office in B.C.

Action Item #4: SCH (Michelle) to circulate the Canada 150 Fund website link.

Vahid Kahnamelli provided the following updates to members:

- Engineers are delivering more projects (160 project elements/ activities) than they have delivered in the last 25 years.
- Much effort is being spent on First Nations consultations, and coordinating consultation with other sectors and departments prior to delivering projects.

Robin Richardson provided the following updates to members:

- Michelle Cho, is the new Harbour Development Officer that will be working with HAABC and doing policy work.
- The regional call for nominations for the 2017 SCH recognition awards have gone out and the deadline to submit nominations is November 21, 2016
- SCH is working with other sectors to obtain better landings information at the harbour level.

Jordan Mah provided the following updates to members:

- Inspection of the condition of infrastructure is a key factor in project planning and budgeting. Generally, inspections are carried out in the fall through different consultants contracted by SCH.
- To help HAs inform their maintenance and planning, SCH will provide as much advance notice to the HA as possible and will advise what operational requirements are needed (e.g. move boats, need a skiff, etc.). The results of the report feed into an action plan (immediate/medium/long term plan); and it takes about 3-6 months before the results of the report and action plan are shared with HAs (address 1 year vs 3-5 year plan), however Health and Safety concerns are addressed immediately.
- There was brief discussion with the need for SCH to share the inspection report and SCH's draft plan. SCH is working to standardize and provide HA's with a consistent communication tool (i.e. action plan) so that HAs could plan their maintenance around the inspections.

4. DFO UPDATE

- Associate Regional Director General (ARDG), Bonnie Antcliffe and Regional Director, Ecosystems Management, Cheryl Webb, joined the meeting to provide an overview of departmental priorities to the group including a brief overview of the Minister's mandate letter which outlined commitments that have been made public, including but not limited to the following:
 - 1) Work with the Minister of Environment to increase the proportion of Canada's marine and coastal areas that are to be protected (i.e. target to increase to 5% by 2017 and to 10% by 2020);
 - 2) Support federal ocean science and monitoring programs (i.e. renewed science based evidence in decision making).
 - 3) Act on recommendations of the Cohen commission for Fraser Sockeye. There are over 100 recommendations (e.g. advancing consultation on the Wild Salmon Policy);

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4) Re-opening of the Kitsilano CCG base in Vancouver –it will be the search and rescue and incident command center;

5) Review changes to Fisheries Act which is being reviewed by the House of Commons Standing Committee of Fisheries and Oceans (SCOFO). The review is intended to restore lost protections and modernize safeguards that relate to habitat issues (i.e. mainly s.35 of the Fisheries Act).

- The recent oil spill in Bella Bella was highlighted and there is a desire from First Nations to be more involved with emergency response such as training.
- The issue of ghost fishing gear and the Steveston initiative to recycle any gear was highlighted and that Steveston could help fishermen and DFO dispose of gear ; the need for a reporting process for abandoned gear was identified.
- Further discussion took place regarding the Minister’s commitments, what the Fisheries Act review could potentially mean for dredging; oil spill response initiatives that link to harbours and habitat conservation. It was highlighted that integration across all sectors is becoming more relevant.

Action Item #5: Bob to circulate YouTube link on Steveston’s Ghost Fishing Gear Initiative. SCH (Ken Smith) to circulate the link to Bonnie and Cheryl.

Action Item #6: SCH (Michelle Cho and Robin Richardson) to look into whether there are any government initiatives that require a reporting process whenever a net is abandoned for safety or other reasons.

Action Item #7: SCH (Michelle Cho and Robin Richardson) to report back on any potential staffing increases for stock assessment.

Action Item #8: SCH (Ken Smith) to circulate Bonnie and Cheryl’s contact information to PRHAAC members.

5. LIVEBOARDS UPDATE

- This is a follow up to the past liveboard discussions regarding related issues (i.e. complaints from neighbors and First Nations; liveboards complaining to SCH about the lack of electrical service, HAs concerned with no SCH policy or guidance on liveboards). SCH has strongly discouraged liveboards since 1997, but HA’s have since been allowed to decide their own policies which have resulted in inconsistent policies and management. SCH proposed a draft policy, implementation plan and next steps for discussion and the objective for the day’s meeting was to initiate discussion and identify key areas for further discussions in the future.
- SCH’s objective is to ultimately have a clear policy that is aligned with SCH’s mandate, but reduces the liabilities associated with long-term residents.
- Discussion on the issue took place and there was consensus from the members that full-time/ long term liveboards pose a significant risk and require restrictions through SCH policy. Members also agreed the need to accommodate transients (e.g. commercial fishers who are engaged in fishing and recreational vessels that are there short term). Members recognized that some HAs depend on recreational vessels for revenue when the commercial vessels are out fishing. There wasn’t consensus on a liveboard definition

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and further discussion is required. The discussion will be continued at the next face to face meeting. Members are requested to think about what some acceptable definitions would be and what implementation would look like.

Action Item #9: SCH (Michelle Cho) to add a liveboard discussion as an agenda item at the next a face to face meeting.

Action Item #10: PRHAAC members to consider what is an acceptable definition of a liveboard and implementation plan.

6. NHAAC MEETING UPDATE

- Ken provided a quick update:
 - The last NHAAC Meeting was an update call on July 20, 2016. The Record of Discussion was circulated to the members.
 - The upcoming NHAAC Meeting is on November 15-17, 2016. Ken, Ben, Liz and Bob will be attending. The draft agenda was circulated to the members and discussed at a high level.
 - The need for succession planning for the NHAAC and RHAAC processes was brought up.

Action Item #11: SCH (Michelle Cho) to add Succession Planning for NHAAC and RHAAC processes as an agenda item at the next face to face meeting.

7. HAABC AND HAC UPDATES

- Ben provided a quick update:
 - All renewal policies have been submitted.
 - HAC is currently negotiating a 3rd option for larger harbours which will provide \$5 Million in coverage at the cost of \$450/year. The negotiations will be finalized in the next couple weeks.
- Due to time constraints, Lutz did not provide the HAABC update, however handouts on the update was circulated to the members.

8. ADVISOR UPDATES

- There were no updates from advisors.

9. WRAP-UP AND NEXT MEETING

- Members were advised that the next PRHAAC meeting would be a post-NHAAC meeting teleconference call that would be scheduled for early December 2016/ January 2017 at which time the next face to face would be decided and include topics such as climate change and liveboard discussion.