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

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**RECORD OF DISCUSSION**

Friday, April 21, 2017  
Boardroom B, 2<sup>nd</sup> 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 (by phone)

**Guests:**

Bonnie Antcliffe, Associate Regional Director  
General, Pacific Region  
Katie Rattan, A/Regional Manager, Client Services, SCH  
Vahid Kahnemelli, Regional Engineer, SCH  
Michelle Cho, Harbour Development Officer, SCH

**SCH Ex-Officio PRHAAC Members:**

Jordan Mah, A/Regional Director  
Robin Richardson, Regional Manager  
Harbour Development

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**1. WELCOME AND REVIEW OF AGENDA**

- Moved SCH updates before DFO updates.
- The meeting Agenda was reviewed and adopted.

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

- Action Items from the November 4, 2016 meeting were discussed. The Climate Change topic will be deferred to the next face to face meeting as there hasn't been much progress nationally.

**3. SCH UPDATE**

Jordan Mah provided the following up-date to members:

- Staffing updates:
  - Ken Smith accepted a one year assignment to help support regional engagement, implementation planning and monitoring the results of the Oceans Protection Plan.
  - Jordan Mah will be acting Regional Director until end of May/ early June.
  - Katie Rattan is acting as the Regional Manager, Client Services.

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- Updates on what is happening with the two positions will come in early May.
- Jordan Mah also provided other SCH staffing updates.
- Budget updates:
  - Federal Infrastructure Initiative (FII) 1 – \$289M finished. 2017/18 is the final year for FII 2 which includes \$149M over two years. FII 2 - SCH will start six new projects and is finishing off two others. Budget 2017 was announced late March. SCH received \$5M nationally for one year in addition to the regular SCH program funding. The Regular program includes \$1.5M for divestiture.
- Divestiture:
  - Nationally, SCH did not receive additional funding for the 5 year proposed divestiture program in budget 2017.
  - Even though there is no 5 year divestiture program funding, SCH still plans to make progress on certain aspects of divestiture (e.g. consultations with third parties) this fiscal year with existing resources.
- Indigenous Developments:
  - It is an SCH priority to continue to develop strong relationships with First Nations. Some First Nations are interested in becoming an HA and will be able to make use of the resources we can provide (e.g. capacity building, long term planning integration with SCH).
- SCH Program Long Term Strategy:
  - Nationally, SCH will review how each region can implement some long term sustainability planning tools (e.g. divestiture, zonal planning, HA capacity growth). SCH will engage with individual HAs and look at whether there is benefit to implementing some of the tools.

Vahid Kahnamelli provided the following update to members:

- 2016/17 was the busiest year in history and it was very successful. 200-250 projects were delivered which involved Engineering, Client services, Integrated Program Planning and Analysis, large number of contracts, and consultants.
- Some challenges included the large number of resources and effort required for the extensive consultation process with First Nations and other sectors and departments prior to delivering projects (e.g. Fisheries Protection Program review process when dredging is involved). Jordan Mah added that SCH Pacific places huge effort on consultations and building relationships with First Nations and other stakeholders.

Katie Rattan provided the following update to members:

- Client Services continues to be busy with project delivery, including project planning, developing roles/ responsibilities; communication strategies and consultations with First Nations.
- This year, establishing long term harbour plans was well received. SCH will continue to present the long term harbour planning initiative to HAs to identify and prioritize needs and come up with plans.
- Continued focus on building relationships with First Nations, explain the benefits of becoming a HA, support capacity issue, and explore opportunities to help First Nations establish themselves as an HA. There are currently 8-10 harbours not managed by HAs.

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- Managing day to day operational issues (e.g. storm damage, etc).
- SCH will be sharing last year's inspection reports which have been completed this year. Every 3 years, facilities are inspected and it is a year- long process which includes the inspection itself and review by engineering and client services before it is ready to be shared with HA's. SCH will try to provide as much advance notice as possible and share the inspection report and action plan with HAs.

**Action item:** SCH to contact HAs as soon possible after the inspection plan for the year is finalized. SCH will also discuss options with Engineering to avoid duplication/ overlap and improve the process.

Robin Richardson provided the following update to members:

- Michelle Cho is now permanently in the Harbour Development officer position and working on policy development, PRHAAC coordination, HAABC engagement, etc, as of July 2016.
- Through the Contribution Agreement (CA), the HAABC has been providing funding for legal advice (e.g. VoCs) and mentoring to HAs. This is the last year of the 2 year agreement, and a new CA will need to be in place for 2018/19 to support HAs in developing their capacity.
- SCH Pacific conducted a pilot with an HA to successfully use funding from a CA to dispose of a vessel of concern (VoC) properly. SCH also conducted aVoC inventory. The inventory information will be used to help develop a VoC policy nationally.
- Property- Amelia Weatherbe is training Christina Engel to take on real property role. There is a long Property project list and good progress being made. There were over 35 property projects completed in 2016 (e.g. DND in Comox/ Trites Road land swap with Richmond) and updating aerial overlays.

#### **4. DFO UPDATE**

Associate Regional Director General (ARDG), Bonnie Antcliffe joined the meeting. Introductions were done and some of the departmental priorities were presented to the group:

**Departmental priorities:**

- Commitment to increase the proportion of marine and coastal areas to be protected (i.e. target to increase to 5% by 2017 and to 10% by 2020);
- Minister announced the Pacific North Coast Integrated Management Area (PNCIMA) and the Hecate Strait sponge reef initiative which reiterates the protection of marine and coastal areas;
- Act on recommendations of the Cohen commission for the decline of Fraser sockeye (e.g. consultations on the Wild Salmon Policy);
- Continue to build positive relationships with First Nations and setting up agreements with broad interests of First Nations in mind (e.g. economic development opportunities);
- Commitment to review Fisheries Act changes from 2012 (CEAA changed and FA changed). Being involved in high risk projects; less involved in small projects. Those have come up for review again;
- Re-opening of Kitsilano Canadian Coast Guard base in Vancouver;

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- Budget 2017 re-affirmed existing priorities and mandate commitments. E.g. Oceans Protection Plan (OPP) is an opportunity for the Department to better align with oil spills. The Department is also actively recruiting staff (i.e. CCG, David Heap recruiting in media).

**Action item:** SCH to share CCG, David Heap's contact information.

- Further discussion took place regarding what the marine conservation target of 5% entails. It was highlighted that the conservation areas do not mean no activities can occur in those areas, but those areas have conservation objectives. Activities can occur in the area if the activity is consistent with the conservation objectives (e.g. may be able to have shipping the in area, but cannot anchor).
- There was a brief discussion of the issue of a lack of enforcement of habitat and fisheries infractions (e.g. unmonitored commercial fishing, illegal recreational fishing, vessels of concern that have a removal order but lack of funds to deal with the vessel if the owner doesn't comply). It was suggested to have Conservation & Protection attend the next PRHAAC meeting to discuss concerns and to have CCG discuss further on the removal of vessels of concern.
- It was highlighted that communities/ locals are valuable assets as first responders to marine incidents (e.g. oil spills), however, there is a lack of coordination between agencies (e.g. Western Canada Marine Response Corporation coordination) and communities. SCH explained that it is on CCG's plan to engage HA's on local area response plans and training. SCH also highlighted that training for HAs is also available through the HAABC.

#### **5. Canadian Coast Guard (CCG) Environmental Response Program**

- Tim McCann provided an overview of the CCG Environmental Response Program. He explained CCG's leadership role in responding to marine pollution, outlined Canada's Marine Oil Spill Preparedness and Response Regime and the CCG's role within it, and provided information on initiatives announced including Vessels of concern (VoC).
- There are thousands of abandoned, derelict and wrecked vessels (VoCs) in Canadian waters which pose environmental, navigational safety and/or economic risks. There is a growing public expectation for the federal government to address VoCs. Addressing VoCs requires time and involves many levels of governments and different federal departments who all share responsibility on the issue.
- CCG clarified that many aspects may already be covered by existing Legislation including the ability to address some vessels on a case-by-case basis that are either polluting or pose a significant hazard to navigation.
- CCG Environmental Response will address any instance where there is marine pollution involved (e.g. spill or potential). CCG assesses each situation on a case by case basis. CCG may assess the situation directly or hire qualified contractors to assess the risk of pollution. CCG is working in a more proactive approach to remove vessels when determined that is the best approach to prevent or minimize marine pollution.
- CCG is adding additional staff in the environmental response program in addition to the creation of a VoC program.

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- Over the next couple of years, legislation and regulations will be created, inventories and assessments will need to be completed and a business case / proposal created for dedicated funding before the VoCs will be addressed in a more comprehensive manner.
- It was raised that it is important for first responders (e.g. HAs) who are dealing with the incident be reimbursed for responding. CCG acknowledged that they want to work together with first responders to assess the situation (e.g. describe smells, photos, provide help with containment, local contacts, etc).
- CCG explained that staff are available and travel within the region to assess VoCs however, they first assess remotely with available information to determine if there are indications of a significant potential/ imminent threat before they travel. CCG may hire contractors/ marine surveyors to review on their behalf if they can't travel. All incidents should be reported to the Marine pollution reporting line.
- It was raised that there are organizations within small communities that have done training and are available and can be of assistance (eg. Volunteer fire departments) but require some additional training but have no funding. CCG indicated that they work with community organizations primarily with the assessment as the actual response is more challenging as there are other issues.
- CCG is interested in providing updates at the next HAABC seminar.

**6. Oceans Protection Plan (OPP):**

- Ken Smith provided an overview of the OPP. He explained that it is not a stand alone program, but integrated in the existing programs. \$1.5 billion is the funding for 5 years. however, funding will go beyond that when the programs continue (ongoing resources), waiting for national announcements (TBS),
- Transport Canada (TC) is the lead and overall coordination authority on OPP. TC will coordinate with DFO, CCG, NRCAN, however CCG has most funding. Coordination will be complex as many departments are involved. Ken's role will be to coordinate, and report issues back to the RDG, DFO.
- Ken provided an overview of the key pillars of the OPP as outlined on the public website.

**Action Item:** Send out OPP link again (background, etc).

**Action Item:** SCH will re-confirm agenda items and topics of interests for the next face to face meeting with PRHAAC members.

**7. Terms of Reference Review/ Succession Planning:**

- Bob Baziuk confirmed his retirement. Ken wished Bob well for his upcoming retirement and thanked him for his many years of time, commitment and contributions to PRHAAC, NHAAC and that HAABC.
- SCH recommended that the advisory committee review the terms of reference on a regular basis and provided an overview of the proposed changes. The changes were accepted by all members. SCH highlighted the existing advisory committee gaps and the need for

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succession planning. There is currently room for 3 more members and the PRHAAC could benefit from a diverse representation.

**Action Item:** SCH to confirm availability and interest of existing PRHAAC members to continue participating on the advisory committee. PRHAAC members to provide input on who may be interested.

- There was discussion about whether there should be flexibility in the Terms of Reference to allow associate members who can provide general advice/ knowledge or whether membership should be limited to those who are HAs and have a good understanding of the harbour business and program. SCH will discuss with PRHAAC representatives and make a determination.
- It was recommended that there should be a PRHAAC meeting at the seminar and also a joint meeting with the HAABC board. An explanation of how the two groups could be explained to HAs.

**Action Item:** SCH to solicit HAs in the Pacific Region as required through nominations and/or expressions of interest to select members that reflect the diversity, experience and expertise within the region.

- SCH provided an update on the NHAAC. SCH Pacific will need to choose three PRHAAC members to attend the next meeting in November 2017.

**8. Liveboard Policy:**

- SCH provided an overview of the proposed policy, next steps and implementation plan. The policy is currently under legal review. The need for an implementation and enforcement plan that makes sense with the resources required was discussed.

**Action Item:** SCH to schedule a PRHAAC call for summer before the next NHAAC call in July to provide a liveboard update.

**9. HAABC AND HAC UPDATES**

Lutz provided the following HAABC update:

- The Contribution Agreement is very useful to the HAABC. Communication between PRHAAC and HAABC can be improved.

**Action Item:** Lutz will draft a PRHAAC update and will circulate to the PRHAAC for feedback prior to sending back to HAABC.

Ben provided the following HAC update:

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- HAC has negotiated a 3rd option available to all harbours which will provide \$5 Million in coverage at the cost of \$450/year.

**10. ADVISOR UPDATES**

- There were no updates from advisors.

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

- Members were advised that the next PRHAAC conference call will be in late June 2017, and the next face to face meeting would be scheduled in the Fall of 2017 at which time the next face to face would be decided and include topics such as climate change, OPP and enforcement.