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

RECORD OF DISCUSSION

Wednesday, June 04, 2014
Shelby Boardroom, 11th Floor, 401 Burrard Street, Vancouver, BC

PRHAAC Members:

Bob Baziuk, Steveston HA
Lutz Budde, Oona River HA
Rick Hill, Port Edward HA
Bill Irving, District of Ucluelet
Ben Maberley, Whaler Bay HA
Frank Mauro, HA of Pender Harbour
Liz McLeod, Comox HA

SCH Ex-Officio PRHAAC Members:

Ken Smith, Regional Director
Robin Richardson Regional Manager Client Services
Stacey Martin, Program Officer

Guests:

Rebecca Reid, Regional Director, Fisheries Management
Corey Jackson, Regional Manager, Aquaculture Management
Vahid Kahnamelli, Regional Engineer, SCH

1. WELCOME AND REVIEW OF AGENDA

- Ken Smith welcomed PRHAAC members to the meeting and highlighted the inclusion of Fisheries Management and Aquaculture presentations in the agenda. He also took the opportunity to request that members continue to identify areas of interest for consideration for future meetings.
- The meeting Agenda was adopted.

2. REVIEW OF RoD and ACTION ITEMS

- PRHAAC members accepted the RoD from the January 2014 PRHAAC teleconference call.
- Confirmation that all items from the January call had been actioned was also provided.
- A brief discussion then took place regarding work in the areas of program integration, funding opportunities and harbour planning, including the potential for additional socio-economic work to be completed at the regional level.
- Members were advised that the internal integration document developed by Greg Savard would be reviewed to ensure that opportunities for strengthened relations and information exchange continue to be pursued.
- As well, SCH committed to providing a link to the *Compendium of Funding Sources* document developed by NHQ with members.

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- Bill Irving requested that SCH follow-up with the District of Ucluelet regarding their pilot planning project and advised that the province was also undertaking a planning project in Ucluelet that may be of interest to SCH.
- Finally, SCH agreed to explore options and opportunities for further regional socio-economic work based on the value of the original report completed by Gordon Gislason & Associates in 2003.

Action Item #1: SCH (Stacey Martin) to provide PRHAAC members with a link to the *Compendium of Funding Sources* document developed by NHQ

Action Item #2: SCH (Robin Richardson) to follow-up with District of Ucluelet regarding Ucluelet planning work

Action Item #3: Bill Irving to provide SCH (Robin Richardson) with information regarding the provincial harbour planning initiative that is underway

Action Item #4: SCH to further explore options for pursuing an updated province-wide socio-economic study and provide PRHAAC members with a proposal at the next PRHAAC meeting

3. FISHERIES MANAGEMENT OVERVIEW & PRIORITIES

- Fisheries Management Regional Director, Rebecca Reid, joined the meeting to provide an overview of Fisheries Management risks, challenges and priorities to members.
- Rebecca identified a number of key program challenges and provided a brief overview of specific Aquaculture, Treaty and Aboriginal Policy and Pacific Integrated Commercial Fisheries Initiative program highlights before discussing key resource management priorities, including the following:
 - development and implementation of 21 IFMPs;
 - Species at Risk;
 - completion of integrated geoduck framework;
 - policy support and implementation;
 - licensing initiatives; and
 - international agreements.
- Good discussion took place, with the need for in-season fisheries flexibilities and reduced herring fees identified as priorities by members.
- The need for improved harbour level landings data in the Region was also identified, with the suggestion made that policy and catch monitoring staff should be included in the next PRHAAC session.

Action Item #5: SCH to include landings data collection as an Agenda item at the next PRHAAC session.

4. EVOLVING FISHERIES - AQUACULTURE

- Aquaculture Management Division Regional Manager, Corey Jackson, joined the meeting to provide an overview of Aquaculture Management in the Region, including:

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- a high-level overview of aquaculture in BC;
- an outline of DFO's management approach;
- current status and trends for the sector; and
- potential linkages with SCH.
- Corey also highlighted DFO Aquaculture priorities for 2014-15, which include the following:
 - review, assess and process aquaculture licence applications;
 - implement aquaculture advisory committees and IMAPs;
 - meet public reporting commitments;
 - conduct fish health and environmental audits;
 - strengthen consultation with First Nations, industry, stakeholders; and
 - support a highly-compliant industry in BC.
- Good discussion took place regarding federal and provincial roles, industry trends and the need to better understand aquaculture use at harbours.

5. LIVEBOARD DISCUSSION

- Further to the Liveboard presentation made at the October 2013 PRHAAC face-to-face meeting, Robin Richardson and Ken Smith identified the need for the SCH program to develop a current day definition of liveboards and to clarify SCH's policy position on the issue.
- Members were advised that while the *Fishing and Recreational Harbours Act* does currently allow for liveboards under certain conditions, the need for a clear policy that is incorporated into lease agreements was required.
- Current approaches by HAs were further discussed and potential approaches to addressing liveboard concerns were proposed.
- Members were advised that SCH would continue to work on the development of a policy approach in hopes of having something to share with members at the next meeting.
- Bill Irving offered to share the District of Ucluelet's current bylaw regarding stay-boards and liveboards to help further inform the issue.

<p>Action Item #6: Bill Irving to share the District of Ucluelet's liveboard bylaw with SCH and PRHAAC members for their information.</p>
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6. LADDER UPDATE

- Vahid Kahnamelli and Ken Smith provided a ladder update to members, with Ken confirming that from an SCH perspective, federal jurisdiction applies. He further advised that if anyone raised the issue with Harbour Authorities, those individuals should be directed to SCH.
- Ken confirmed that 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.
- Members were further advised that operational requirements and vessel layout will help to dictate placement of ladders at each harbour and that design parameters, developed using the Canadian Labour Code, would be set by SCH.
- SCH also committed to sharing spec/design details with PRHAAC members prior to the fall PRHAAC meeting.

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- The importance of developing an associated maintenance and inspection plan for HAs was also discussed.

7. SCH UPDATE

Ken Smith provided the following up-date to members:

- Staff Changes
 - Associate Regional Director General (ARDG) of DFO Pacific, Sylvie Bérubé, has moved to a new position as the Regional Director General of Public Works and Government Services Canada
 - Various staff have been acting as ARDG in Sylvie's absence until her permanent replacement is finalized
 - Kaye Love has officially retired as the Director of Harbour Development, Policy and Planning and has been replaced by Susan Mojgani, who many met at the HAABC Seminar in January.
- SCH Current Year Program
 - No project announcements have been made thus far in the Pacific Region for the 2014-2015 fiscal year; however, the regular program plan has been approved and SCH is now engaging HAs and initiating contracts.
- Budget 2014
 - Members were reminded that \$40M of funding for SCH nationally over a two year period was identified in Budget 2014
 - As the funding still needs to be approved through Treasury Board submission and announced at the discretion of the Minister, details regarding how it would be allocated were not provided; however, it was anticipated that additional funding would be allocated to advance some Pacific Major Capital projects.
- National Issues
 - Long Term Strategy
 - Data collection is now essentially complete and the Program is now in the quality control phase
 - The program now has much better information available and although there is still a need for improved ongoing data collection, the Program is in a much better position in terms of harbour information.
 - Ken advised that the next step in the process is to undertake data analysis and develop some proposed options by year-end
 - Ken flagged that there are still some gaps in information in the Pacific Region, specifically as relates to landings information. He highlighted that work had been undertaken to try and determine landings at harbours but due to catch monitoring approaches, getting information at the harbour level was very challenging. He confirmed that efforts to secure improved harbour level information will continue.
 - Policy Issues
 - Ken indicated that a number of policy issues were being examined at the national level, including:
 - Dredging (including service standards, access channel jurisdiction, etc.)

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- Divestiture (including analysis of feasibility information collected through the LTS data collection initiative)
 - Use of Harbours (especially as relates to aquaculture)
 - Enforcement and Compliance – Derelict & Abandoned Vessels
 - Ken indicated a need for SCH to follow-up with Transport Canada regarding the status of their review, including progress to-date and anticipated next steps
 - He also advised members that NHQ was exploring non-regulatory/non-legislative options for assisting HAs, as well
- Other Regional Issues
 - The Minister of Fisheries & Oceans Canada, the Honourable Gail Shea, presented the national Prix d'Excellence award to Mike Griswold from Quadra Island HA
 - First Nations consultations are increasing, especially in cases where changes to harbour footprints are being considered and in response to First Nations interest in harbour management.
 - Water levels were identified as another area of interest, with Vahid Kahnamelli advising that cameras and weather stations have been installed to monitor and gather information at some harbours. Ben Maberley indicated that they were tracking water levels at their harbours on Galiano Island and had observed significant increases at both high and low tide.

<p><u>Action Item #7:</u> Ben Maberley to share Whaler Bay HA water level data with SCH (Vahid Kahnamelli)</p>
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8. HAABC UPDATE

- HAABC Vice-President and PRHAAC member, Lutz Budde, provided an HAABC update to members on the following:
 - HAABC contribution agreement with SCH;
 - 2014 HAABC seminar;
 - new HAABC board members;
 - HAABC membership;
 - *Canada Corporations Act* transition support to HAs;
 - HAABC business planning;
 - zone meetings;
 - training; and
 - the upcoming PCC conference at Campbell River in October.
- HAABC post-conference survey results were also shared with members.
- SCH also confirmed, in response to a question from Lutz, that no further rollout of maintenance manuals was planned. Vahid Kahnamelli suggested that HAs should print out the relevant sections of the *Inspection and Maintenance Modules for HAs* guide based on their harbour infrastructure and use and review that material, as necessary.

9. HAC UPDATE

- Ben Maberley advised members that to-date 445 of 574 Harbour Authorities have signed up for insurance through the HAC.

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- He further advised that 218 of those HAs had opted for \$2M of liability insurance, which is an increase of 12 HAs over the previous year. Ben reminded members that HAs may only upgrade to the increased \$2M of coverage at the time of insurance renewal.
- Ben also indicated that the HAC was working on developing a website and was hoping to have it up and running prior to the 2015 HAABC seminar.

10. ADVISOR UPDATES

- Frank Mauro advised members that while Robin Millar is no longer the Harbour Manager for the HA of Pender Harbour, he had recently been elected as a member of the HA Board.
- Bill Irving stressed the need for members to promote the HA program and shared that both provincial and federal representatives had recently visited the Ucluelet harbours and that Ucluelet is now the largest port in Canada for landed groundfish.
- Bill also highlighted his recent participation in a meeting with Kinder Morgan and Burrard Clean and suggested that they may be interesting to have at the next HAABC Seminar.

11. WRAP-UP AND NEXT MEETING

- Ken Smith thanked members for their participation and advised that the next PRHAAC face-to-face meeting would take place in the fall, prior to the NHAAC meeting.

<p><u>Action Item #8</u>: SCH (S. Martin) will provide copies of the meeting presentation decks to members for their information.</p>
