

REGIONAL DISTRICT OF NANAIMO

**SPECIAL BOARD MEETING
TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 10, 2009
(immediately following the Committee of the Whole)**

(RDN Board Chambers)

A G E N D A

PAGES

CALL TO ORDER

**STANDING COMMITTEE, SELECT COMMITTEE AND COMMISSION
MINUTES AND RECOMMENDATIONS**

EXECUTIVE STANDING COMMITTEE

From the In Camera Executive Committee meeting held January 28, 2009.

Board Remuneration Bylaw No. 1078 – Deputy Chair Remuneration. (All Directors – One Vote)

That the Deputy Chair of the Board be compensated for monthly meetings attended with the Chair and the Chief Administrative Officer to review the Committee of the Whole/Board agenda, at the rate of \$70 per meeting, pursuant to Section 2 - Other Meetings, of the Board Remuneration Bylaw No. 1078.

ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORTS

2-4 AVICC Resolution - VIA Rail. (All Directors – One Vote)

5-7 AVICC Resolution - District 69 Community Justice. (All Directors – One Vote)

ADDENDUM

NEW BUSINESS

ADJOURNMENT

IN CAMERA

That pursuant to Sections 90(1) (a) and (e) of the Community Charter the Board proceed to an In Camera meeting to consider items related to committee appointments and land acquisition.



RDN REPORT	
CAO APPROVAL <i>(initials)</i>	
EAP	
COW	
FEB 10 2009	
RHD	
BOARD	✓ Feb 10 '09

MEMORANDUM

TO: C. Mason
Chief Administrative Officer

DATE: January 30, 2009

FROM: D. Trudeau
General Manager, Transportation & Solid Waste Services

FILE:

SUBJECT: Resolution to AVICC – VIA Rail

PURPOSE:

To approve a resolution for the Association of Vancouver Island Coastal Communities Conference, requesting that VIA Rail consider re-routing or adding an additional Dayliner to travel from Courtenay to Victoria and return daily and to consider reintroducing unscheduled stops on the rail line to provide a sustainable transportation link for residential use.

BACKGROUND:

On November 24, 2008, the Board passed the following motion:

"That staff prepare a resolution for the AVICC Conference to request that VIA Rail consider re-routing or adding an additional Dayliner to travel from Courtenay to Victoria and return daily and to consider reintroducing unscheduled stops on the rail line to provide a sustainable transportation link for residential use."

The motion was a result of the difficulties passengers from the Regional District of Nanaimo (RDN) have with the Courtenay to Victoria service that VIA Rail provides. Currently VIA Rail has a passenger train that departs from Victoria at 8 a.m. and arrives in Courtenay at 12:45 p.m. The passenger train then returns from Courtenay at 1:15 p.m. and arrives in Victoria at 6:00 p.m. Due to the hours of service passengers from the RDN wishing to travel to Victoria must seek overnight accommodation. The timing of the runs does not work well for potential tourists or commuters from the RDN. In addition, the service is operated with no provisions for unscheduled stops for pickup or discharging passengers. It appears that this was a past practice has been discontinued by the railway due to liability concerns.

If VIA Rail changed their schedule to leave in the morning from Courtenay or added an additional train, the system would be more attractive to potential passengers of the RDN.

ALTERNATIVES:

1. Approve the resolution calling on VIA rail to consider re-routing or adding an additional Dayliner to travel from Courtenay to Victoria and return daily and to consider reintroducing unscheduled stops on the rail line to provide a sustainable transportation link for residential use.
2. Amend the resolution and approve it as amended.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS:

There are no financial implications with either alternative.

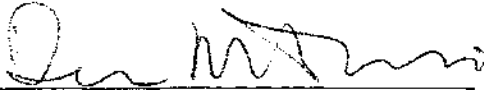
SUMMARY/CONCLUSIONS:

VIA Rail has a passenger train that departs from Victoria at 8 a.m. and arrives in Courtenay at 12:45 p.m. The passenger train then returns from Courtenay at 1:15 p.m. and arrives in Victoria at 6:00 p.m. The timing of the runs does not work well for potential tourists or commuters from the RDN. In addition the service is operated with no provisions for unscheduled stops for pickup or discharging passengers.


If VIA Rail allowed unscheduled stops and changed their schedule to leave in the morning from Courtenay or added an additional train the system, would be more attractive to potential passengers from the RDN.

RECOMMENDATION:

That the attached resolution requesting VIA Rail to consider re-routing or adding an additional Dayliner to travel from Courtenay to Victoria and return daily and to consider reintroducing unscheduled stops on the rail line to provide a sustainable transportation link for residential use be approved and forwarded to the Association of Vancouver Island Coastal Communities Conference.



Report Writer



C.A.O. Concurrence

WHEREAS VIA Rail is to provide a passenger train service for Vancouver Island;

AND WHEREAS the current schedule only provides one-way departures between Victoria and Courtenay for same day travel and does not provide morning departure for travel south between Courtenay and Victoria;

AND WHEREAS VIA Rail has restricted the ability for passengers to be picked up and dropped off at unscheduled locations;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that VIA Rail consider re-routing or adding an additional Dayliner to travel from Courtenay to Victoria and return daily and to consider reintroducing unscheduled stops on the rail line to provide a sustainable transportation alternative for Vancouver Island Communities.



RDN REPORT	
CAO APPROVAL	
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BOARD	

MEMORANDUM

TO: Carol Mason
Chief Administrative Officer

DATE: January 28, 2009

FROM: Linda Burgoyne, Administrative Assistant

SUBJECT: Resolution to AVICC – District 69 Community Justice

PURPOSE:

To approve a resolution brought forward to the Board of Directors by the District 69 Community Justice Select Committee for submission to the upcoming Association of Vancouver Island Coastal Communities Conference (AVICC) in April 2009 concerning the inefficiencies of the court system and the administrative overload to RCMP personnel in preparing for prosecutions.

BACKGROUND:

The members of the District 69 Community Justice Select Committee meet once per year with a representative of the Oceanside RCMP to receive updates concerning program funding provided by the the Regional District of Nanaimo (RDN) to the RCMP for the two programs they manage - Restorative Justice and Victim Services. The provincial government provides these programs with annual funding in the amount of \$60,000 for Victims Services and makes grants available for the Restorative Justice program. The RDN District 69 participants provide additional funding of \$55,000 per year to support both programs. The RCMP have requested that the RDN increase funding support in 2009.

These programs provide a valuable local resource to assist in reducing the trauma to victims of crime and early intervention, particularly with youth, in avoiding the criminal justice system for petty crimes. There is no mandatory requirement to fund either program, however, many communities now provide funding to recognize the community benefit from these programs.

At the District 69 Community Justice Select Committee meeting held January 20, 2009, the Committee considered the request from the RCMP to increase funding for the Victims Services and Restorative Justice programs, but given the current downturn in the economy the Committee was unable to justify an increase to District 69 parcel tax rates to provide for additional funds for these programs at this time.

The Committee discussed how they may be able to assist the RCMP to do a better job in the community, and endorsed the following resolution:

That staff prepare a resolution for consideration by the Board at a Special Board meeting on February 10, 2009, for submission to the AVICC concerning the inefficiencies of the court system, the administrative overload required by RCMP personnel in preparing for prosecutions, and the increasing costs of these inefficiencies upon the BC Taxpayers.

This resolution was endorsed by the Board of Directors at the Board Meeting held January 27, 2009.

Staff are now bringing forward the attached resolution for the Board of Director's final endorsement. The approved resolution will be forwarded to the AVICC for consideration at their annual conference in April 2009.

ALTERNATIVES:

1. Approve the resolution as presented.
2. Amend the resolution and approve it as amended.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS:

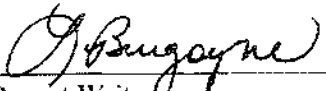
There are no financial implications.

SUMMARY:


At the District 69 Community Justice Select Committee meeting held January 20, 2009, the Committee discussed how they could assist the RCMP to do a better job in the community given that the Committee was unable to endorse providing additional funding to the RCMP for their Restorative Justice and Victims Services programs in 2009. The Committee recommended that staff prepare a resolution for submission to the upcoming Association of Vancouver Island and Coastal Communities Conference in April 2009 regarding the inefficiencies of the court system and the administrative overload required by RCMP personnel in preparing for prosecutions.

RECOMMENDATION:

That the Board endorse the resolution for submission to the upcoming Association of Vancouver Island and Coastal Communities Conference concerning the inefficiencies of the court system, the administrative overload required by RCMP personnel in preparing for prosecutions, and the increasing costs of these inefficiencies upon the BC Taxpayers.



Report Writer



CAO Concurrence

WHEREAS in response to requests for more police presence in our communities, local governments are frequently told that case preparation and court time for minor offences reduce the time available for community policing;

AND WHEREAS local governments are called on increasingly to provide funding for Victim Services and Restorative Justice programs which help reduce the case management and court attendance time for police staff;

AND WHEREAS despite these efforts by communities the court system requires increasing attendance by police staff;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Provincial Government find more efficient and effective ways to address delays in the court system in order to reduce the administration impact on police services and thereby improve overall police services to our communities.