

LATE AGENDA

REGULAR MEETING OF COUNCIL

Tuesday, September 8, 2015

7:30 p.m.

**George Fraser Room, Ucluelet Community Centre
500 Matterson Drive,
Ucluelet, B.C.**

Council Members:

Mayor Dianne St. Jacques
Councillor Sally Mole
Councillor Randy Oliwa
Councillor Marilyn McEwen
Councillor Mayco Noel



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1. SECTION 5 – CORRESPONDENCE ITEMS

• Addition of Item 5.8:

Request re: Letter of Support for Information on Optik TV
Ucluelet Video Servies Ltd. (Ukee Cable)

Page
LATE#1

Subject: Letter of Support
Attachments: Fibre Optic Line to West Coast.docx

From: Ucluelet Video Services Ltd. [mailto:glds@ukeecable.net]
Sent: Friday, September 04, 2015 1:51 PM
To: Morgan Dosdall <mdosdall@ucluelet.ca>
Subject: Letter of Support

Hello Morgan:

I have attached a letter that we sent to Scott Fraser regarding our concerns about the possibility of Telus offering Optik TV, once the fibre line is in place. As the project to bring the fibre line to the west coast is funded by the government, we feel it is unfair for Telus (if this is their plan) to offer Optik TV. Mr. Fraser is supportive of us and recommended getting a letter of support from the Mayor of Ucluelet.

Rob Ferguson has discussed this with Dianne St. Jacques; and she suggested contacting you to add it to the agenda for Tuesdays meeting.

Thank you,

Tina Ferguson
Ucluelet Video Services Ltd. (Ukee Cable)
Ucluelet BC V0R 3A0
250-726-7792



"In Business Since 1967"

Ucluelet Video Services Ltd.
Box 47, Ucluelet BC V0R 3A0
250-726-7792
glds@ukeecable.net
www.ukeecable.ca

July 28, 2015

Mr. Scott Fraser, MLA
Alberni - Pacific Rim
3945B Johnson Rd.
Port Alberni, BC
V9Y 5N4

Re: Fibre Optic Infrastructure Line to the West Coast of Vancouver Island

As you are aware, BC Hydro is in the process of replacing a large number of transmission poles that provide power to the west coast of Vancouver Island. Upon completion, Telus will be installing a fiber optic infrastructure line to Ucluelet, Tofino and west coast First Nations communities; providing a higher speed access to internet services. It is our understanding that we will also have access to the fibre line by renting the bandwidth from Telus.

Ucluelet Video Services Ltd. (Ukee Cable) is a family owned and operated company, since 1967. We have provided microwave Internet service for over 12 years to the community of Ucluelet. We have also provided Digital TV since 2001, and HDTV since 2008.

It is of great concern to us that once the fiber line is in place and operational, Telus will be in a position to offer Optik TV; as they have done in other communities, including Port Alberni, Qualicum, and Port Hardy. The District of Ucluelet has a small population of approximately 1,650 and any significant reduction to our subscriber base would be very damaging to our business.

This would essentially mean that we would be competing against tax payers money; creating an unethical and disadvantaged situation to the cable TV companies (including Seaview Communications in Tofino) who have already been providing TV and Internet to the west coast communities without the benefit of government funding.

Telus' commitment to invest 2.8 billion in a fibre optic network to all corners of BC, reportedly comes at no cost to taxpayers. In 2009, \$40.8 million was granted to All Nations Trust Company by the Province of BC and the Government of Canada for the purpose of providing financial stewardship and project management for the Pathways of Technology Project to ensure broadband Connectivity to all 203 First Nations in BC. Any government funding committed was for the purpose of Internet service (not TV).

We have been unable to acquire any information on Telus' future plans in this regard, and would be grateful for any assistance you could offer.

Sincerely,

Tina Ferguson
Office Manager
Ucluelet Video Services Ltd. (Ukee Cable)