

Tofino Ratepayers Association



August 8, 2019

Re: Summer Update

Hello Members. Time for a summertime update on all things concerning the Tofino Ratepayer's Association.

After a successful meeting in June at the Legion, we took Myles Beeby up on his offer of assistance in mounting a PR campaign to boost membership in the Tofino RPA. Expect to see a new poster featuring a new Logo, Motto and Website in the coming weeks. A social media campaign will feature a short, animated video highlighting the concerns of the RPA. Myles has been working hard on this and we owe him a lot of thank-yous. I think you will like what he is creating when we introduce it. There may be a need for volunteers to help get the posters up on every bulletin board in Tofino. Gas station, Hardware store, beach, everywhere. Contact Jarmo if you can help. Venalainen,jarmo@gmail.com

Sadly, Councillor Baert passed away quite suddenly this July. Condolences to all her family and friends. Her efforts to help shape a better future for Tofino are part of our history and will not be forgotten.

But as one chapter comes to a close another begins. The By-Election to fill her seat will take place in October. The Tofino RPA is considering hosting an "all candidates" meeting assuming there is more than one candidate seeking the position

On other fronts, there continues to be considerable chatter about the MRDT, (commonly called 'the bed tax') its impact on Tofino and its future. The Tofino RPA thinks it's time to open up the discussion to the public. Let's educate ourselves about this subject and hear from the relevant parties about the facts, how does it currently operate, and the future, what are the side effects on the community and our taxes and what are the possible outcomes. Could a portion of the MRDT serve the broader public interest in dealing with looming infrastructure costs? Are there other options such as a Sales Tax that could serve the same purpose?

To this end the Tofino RPA is currently proposing an evening event of a public forum, inviting the relevant parties to come and make presentation of their positions and knowledge, and allow the public to ask questions and offer their opinions and to start a healthy debate. The subject needs a little sunshine. We are hoping to do this in Sept or early Oct. Details to come.

Some members are working on the idea of a bumper sticker to promote the cause of the Tofino RPA and draw attention to our tax woes. Have some fun with it. Your suggestions on this or any other subjects are most welcome.

WE are hoping with increased membership a General Annual Meeting can be held this fall to elect Association positions and provide general guidance to the organization.

Cheers for now, Jack Gillie, for the Directors.