



**ADDENDUM
FOR THE DISTRICT OF PORT HARDY
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
7:00PM TUESDAY, JULY 14, 2015
COUNCIL CHAMBERS, MUNICIPAL HALL
7360 COLUMBIA STREET**

Page

F. CORRESPONDENCE

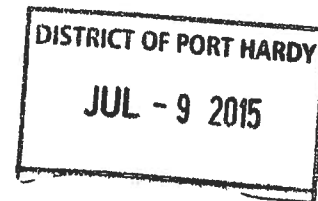
- 1-3 4. Althea Vermaas, Executive Director, NI Crisis and Counselling Centre Society (July 6/15) re: Update on transferring Crisis Line service to Vancouver Island Crisis Society. For information.
- 4 5. Andrea Clifford, Director, Business Development, Geoscience BC (July 7/15) re: Update on Northern Vancouver Island Exploration Geoscience Project. For information.



"Empowering People"

North Island Crisis and Counselling Centre Society
7095 Beverly Parnham Way
P. O. Box 2446 Port Hardy B.C. V0N 2P0

Mayor and Council
District of Port Hardy
Box 68
Port Hardy, BC, V0N 2P0



July 6, 2015

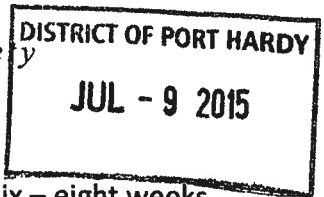
Dear Mayor and Council,

It was only six years ago that the Mt. Waddington community fought valiantly to retain the local Crisis Line, to have the line answered by local people who know the issues of North Islanders. Since 2009, several challenges have arisen that were not factors at that time. With these challenges in mind and after some significant evaluation and consideration, the North Island Crisis and Counselling Centre Society has come to the difficult conclusion that North Island residents will be more effectively served by the Vancouver Island Crisis Society.

Some of the significant environmental changes that make it difficult to operate the line locally are:

- The internet has created access to our Crisis Line phone number by people outside of Mt. Waddington. One of the most frequent callers to our line is actually from North Central BC, but we also have other frequent callers from Vancouver, Ontario and elsewhere who find our number on the internet. We are aware that these callers call multiple crisis lines. Of nearly 1000 calls last year, only 12% were from the North Island; 88% were from people in other parts of Canada.
- Ever increasing numbers of North Islanders have text only capabilities (they do not have phone service); One Port Hardy social service agency reports that 100% of their clients (who would often be the CL clients) have text only. The NI CL does not have the technological infrastructure to work with text and it is cost prohibitive to install. VI CL has the technology to work with texts to the crisis line and also offers an online 'chat' option, as well.
- The majority of the calls to the NI CL are from the same six callers (only one of which is local) and who refuse to access mental health services or counselling.
- Staffing challenges:
 - Recruiting volunteers to work the line is difficult; it is a special person that will offer their support to emotionally difficult calls throughout the night.





- NICCCS employees rotate shifts on-call, approximately one week every six – eight weeks. During this week, the employee:
 - performs his or her regular job,
 - Answers the line from 8am – 9am; 12pm – 1pm; Saturday, Sunday and holidays 8am – 5pm; and, if there is not a volunteer to cover the overnight shift, the employee covers the line that night, as well. The compensation for this is 7 hours banked time or \$200 before taxes, approximately \$125 after taxes and deductions.
 - Is available to support or debrief the CL volunteer 24/7.
 - Due to the anonymous nature of the line, employees are not to be in public answering the line, therefore their freedom is significantly restricted to work and home in the 7 days they are on call
- These demands above and beyond the employee's regular job places significant strain on the employees and the Society.

Transition Plan

June

1. Notify major stakeholders: NI Suicide and Critical Incident Response Network (NISCIRN), Mental Health, School District, Gwa'sala – 'Nakwaxda'xw Family Services, Mt. Waddington Health Network, etc.) to address any concerns they may have
2. Provide VI Crisis Line with a:
 - a. list of small, remote communities, any major issues that they may be dealing with, the closest larger center, and the closest functional large center (ie, Campbell River).
 - b. list of the organizations (names only) from NICCCS resource database for the Mt Waddington area, to be matched to the VICL resource database for any additions and/or changes.
 - c. list of the interventions completed for the past two years from NICCCS giving details such as what agency/person was contacted and the results. (Note: no need for caller's name and information).
 - d. list of any callers that were a danger to self and/or others that we would need to be aware of re: interventions/specific handling guidelines.
 - e. copy of the last two years statistical reports showing the number and type of calls
3. NI and VI Crisis Lines personnel will work together to develop
 - a. Correspondence and promotional material regarding the transition
 - b. The protocol for battered/at-risk women to access the Safe Shelter

Cont'd...



*North Island Crisis and Counselling Centre Society
7095 Beverly Parnham Way
P.O. Box 2446 Port Hardy B.C. V0N 2P0*

DISTRICT OF PORT HARDY

JUL - 9 2015

- July - Community notification via letters to key stakeholders and press releases
- August 1st - Callers will be redirected to call VI CL on weekends (Friday 5pm – Monday 9am)
- August 15th - Callers will be redirected to call VI CL 9am-5pm weekdays
- September - Evening callers will be redirected to VI CL one evening per week
- October 1 - Transition Complete
- October 1 – December 31st - message on NI CL redirecting callers to VI CL

The VI Crisis Line is operated by the Vancouver Island Crisis Society and has a strong and lengthy history, starting as the Nanaimo Crisis Line in 1970, and was awarded the contract to provide crisis line services to all of Vancouver Island by Island Health in 2010.

VICS also provides community education workshops on suicide awareness and youth suicide prevention, some of which have been offered on the North Island in recent years. VICL has over 40 volunteers and 13 staff crisis line workers from various communities on Vancouver Island and answer more than 30,000 calls each year, including chat and texting services. Please visit www.vicrisis.ca for more information on the VICS and VICL programs and services.

Elizabeth Newcombe, Executive Director VICS, and I would be pleased to address any questions that you may have. We can be reached at:

Elizabeth Newcombe

Phone: 250-753-2495 ext. 114

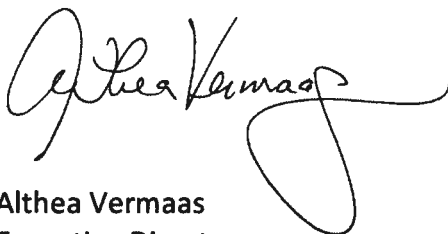
Email: elizabeth@vicrisis.ca

Althea Vermaas

Phone: 250-949-8333

Email: altheav@nicccs.org

Respectfully,



Althea Vermaas

Executive Director

NI Crisis and Counselling Centre Society





Mayor Hank Bood
District of Port Hardy
Box 68, 7360 Columbia St.
Port Hardy, BC V0N 2P0

DISTRICT OF PORT HARDY

JUL 13 2015

July 7, 2015

Dear Mayor Bood,

Re: Northern Vancouver Island Exploration Geoscience Project – Update

I am writing today to give you an update on Geoscience BC's Northern Vancouver Island Exploration Geoscience (NVI) Project, which was initiated as a joint project between Geoscience BC and the Island Coastal Economic Trust (ICET). Launched in July 2012, the project objective was to collect information to add to the geological framework and develop a better understanding of the mineral potential of Northern Vancouver Island and to stimulate new mineral exploration interest in the area and investment to the region.

The NVI project was a successful collaborative effort. Funding for NVI project activities was provided by Geoscience BC and ICET and was strongly endorsed by Nanwakolas Council. Support for the project was also received from the Ministry of Jobs, Tourism and Skills Training through the Campbell River Regional Economic Investment pilot and Rivercorp. The Campbell River Regional Economic Investment pilot was launched in January 2012, and a Geoscience BC regional airborne geophysical survey was identified as a potential opportunity to meet pilot objectives, which included attracting investment, identifying economic growth opportunities, diversifying local economies and creating regional jobs. The final NVI project included both an airborne geophysical survey and a regional geochemical program. The final project report to ICET is available at: <http://www.islandcoastaltrust.ca/project/mining/northern-vancouver-island-geoscience-exploration>.

Geoscience BC's specific NVI project activities concluded in 2013 and we have recently completed earth science data "upgrades" for the project area. First, earlier this year Geoscience BC released a report by CSA Global Canada Geosciences Inc. that examined new ways to process and further interpret the moss mat stream sediment geochemical samples collected as part of the NVI project. The report demonstrated the importance in understanding nearby geology to the interpretation of the sediment sample, and produced a series of maps highlighting copper in the project area (<http://www.geosciencebc.com/s/Report2015-04.asp>).

In addition, Geoscience BC recently tested a beta version of our Earth Science Viewer (ESV), which will enable everyone to view Geoscience BC data from their personal computer or mobile device without the need for extra software. The ESV will include all data collected as part of the NVI project and make it easily available to a broad range of users from First Nations, prospectors, geologists, students and resource workers to the general public (<http://www.geosciencebc.com/s/WebMaps.asp>). The release of the first version of the viewer is anticipated this summer.

Vancouver Island has well known mineral potential. Mineral exploration and community interests from the Island are represented at Geoscience BC on our board and Minerals Technical Advisory Committee. I expect that more projects on the island will be considered in the future.

Sincerely,

Andrea Clifford
Director, Business Development
Geoscience BC

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