

# BOARD OF DIRECTORS HIGHLIGHTS – SEPTEMBER 2020



The GVHA Board of Directors met virtually for their quarterly board meeting on Friday, Sept. 11, 2020 and discussed the following topics.

## **Shore Power**

Sustainability in our operations is driven by our guiding principles and continued commitment to our community. In January, GVHA engaged consultants Moffatt & Nichol to conduct a Ship Emission Mitigation Technology Assessment for The Breakwater District at Ogden Point. Their goal was to finalize a clear, sustainable path forward for investment in shore power and other emissions mitigation systems. Moffatt & Nichol presented their findings and business case; with input from the Board, staff will take these findings and continue to work on the viability, timing, financing, and ultimately the feasibility of this potential project. The final recommendation will be presented to the Board at the December 2020 meeting.

## **Stakeholder Survey**

The 2020 Stakeholder Survey was designed and conducted to obtain information about the impacts the organization has on Greater Victoria through the lens of the five guiding principles of (1) First Nations engagement, (2) financial self-sustainability, (3) working harbour, (4) accountability, and (5) triple bottom line. The 2020 survey will provide a baseline of awareness by all member agencies and key community partners. Over the summer, the Board of Directors engaged with member agencies and strategic community partners and has appreciated the candid feedback that we have received to date. Preliminary results of the survey were presented to the Board and the final report and analysis will be presented to the Governance and Nominating Committee in October.

## **AGM**

GVHA's Annual General Meeting will take place on Wednesday, September 30 at 7:30 a.m. via Zoom Webinar. As Voting Members of our Society, each Member Agency sends their designated representative to the AGM to provide feedback from that Member Agency and to vote on governance issues. The relationship with our Member Agencies is integral to the successful operation of our organization. Prior to the AGM, GVHA held a town hall meeting with Member Agency Representatives. The purpose of this meeting is to ensure all Member Agency Representatives have the information that they need to make informed decisions at the AGM. Representatives from five out of the eight Member Agencies attended.

## **Committee Report Highlights**

### **First Nations Economic Development (FNED)**

FNED is working on GVHA's Phase 3 submission for the Progressive Aboriginal Relations (PAR) program that will be submitted to the Canadian Council for Aboriginal Business in December 2020. Following the final submission in the Committed Phase, GVHA will apply for certification in April 2021. While COVID-19 has affected many initiatives GVHA had planned for 2020, the submission will look at the past three years of data.

### Human Resources Committee (HRC)

Over the last six months, HRC was focused on working with the CEO and management to right-size the organization for operation during the pandemic. Although there were no cruise ship visits this season, GVHA maintained staff levels in order to oversee and maintain the numerous other facilities and community amenities in our portfolio. HRC continues to review the organizational structure to ensure it can still meet the operational needs of GVHA's assets while considering the financial impact due to the lack of cruise revenue. While GVHA is currently in a window of stability, HRC is looking to the future needs of the organization.

### Governance Nominating Committee (GNC)

GNC is overseeing the Stakeholder Survey and will receive the final report in October. The Annual Report, which details accomplishments from YE2019/20, will be presented at the AGM and will be available to the public on our website. GNC will be activating the Nominations Task Force this month as terms expire on December 31, 2020 for Directors from three of our Member Agencies: Destination Greater Victoria, Capital Regional District, and the City of Victoria. Instigated by the pandemic, GNC developed the Crisis Response Task Force, a new Special Committee that will support governance continuity in the event of a crisis where the Board of Directors cannot reach quorum.

### Audit & Finance Committee (AFC)

AFC presented the audited financial statements from the past fiscal year (April 1, 2019 - March 31, 2020), which were received and approved by the Board of Directors. These will be presented at the AGM, along with the annual appointment of the auditors, for approval by the Member Agencies. AFC also recommended the appointment of KPMG for another five-year term as GVHA's auditors.

### Infrastructure Planning & Development (IPAD)

Although many capital projects that were budgeted for this year were put on hold due to COVID-19, GVHA continues to move forward on two major initiatives:

- Facility Condition Assessments (FCAs): FCAs of the major facilities are scheduled to be completed by December. GVHA will be undergoing extensive work on work on piers, utilities, services and two buildings at The Breakwater District at Ogden Point.
- Socio-Economic Impact Study of Esquimalt and Victoria Harbours (EIS): In conjunction with its 16 partners, GVHA relaunched the EIS in August. External consultant HDR is surveying the stakeholders that were identified by the partners. We have received some funding from partners and are looking to secure more before the project ends in March.