

PORT COMMUNITY LIAISON GROUP MEETING NOTES

Date: January 21, 2021

Locations: Westin Nova Scotia / Virtual

Time: 5:00pm to 7:00pm

Chairperson: Sara Colburne

Coordinators: Rebecca Bruce & Maggie Kennedy

Committee Members in Attendance:

- Sarah Austin
- Dov Bercovici
- Sarah Craig
- Wendy Fraser
- Magali Grégoire
- Jeff Hutt
- Cathy McCarthy
- Waye Mason
- Ossama Nasrallah
- Juanita Peters
- Kunjal Sethi

Guest Presenters:

- Andrew Black, Director of Strategic Technology, Halifax Port Authority (HPA)
- Lane Farguson, Manager of Media Relations and Communications, HPA
- Sarah Rector, Halifax Seaport Farmers' Market Vendor Relations and Communications, HPA

HPA Representative:

Catherine McGrail, Vice President of Corporate Services, HPA

Apologies:

Captain Allan Gray

Pamela Glode-Desrochers

1. INTRODUCTIONS

Introduction of Catherine McGrail, Vice President of Corporate Services, HPA. Catherine attended the meeting on behalf of Captain Gray who was unavailable.

2. GENERAL BUSINESS

Follow-up discussion on last meeting's presentation on diversity, inclusion, and engagement, regarding feedback on summary report, regarding PCLC input and further information on diversity, inclusion, and engagement training.

Chair did a check-in with committee members, on the committee's meeting format and content. Majority of members agreed to continue with format and content. Members also agreed they were willing to participate in informal meetings and/or communications if HPA wanted to share information and/or seek advice outside of scheduled PCLC meetings.

Action Item: Circulate dates for Diversity, Inclusion, and Engagement training when it becomes available.

3. PORT REPORT

Update on the HPA activities and news

Presenter: Catherine McGrail

- We had five safety incidents and near misses, and zero environmental incidents. Out of the five, only one resulted in a minor injury with one day lost time. All others were safety concerns that are under investigation.
- There are two new initiatives for further improving HPA Health and Safety for 2021: HPA will produce a Task and Hazard Risk Assessment to build an updated risk register for all tasks performed by HPA employees, and HPA will work towards ISO 45001:2018 Occupational Health and Safety Certification for 2022.
- On November 30th, Captain Gray signed the NS Health & Safety Charter to demonstrate his commitment as CEO & President to ensuring Nova Scotia is the safest place to work.
- There is a new Transport Minister, Minister Omar Alhabra
- Containerized cargo volume through the Port of Halifax is up in Q4. The increase is the result of continued strength in inbound cargo from Asia and an increase in exports to Latin American markets. For 2020 Year-end our: Containerized cargo throughput in 2020 is 507,185 TEU, non-containerized tonnage in 2020 is 385,793 TEU and total cargo tonnage through HPA facilities in 2020 is 4,216,742 metric tonnes
- HPA announced the next stage of planning for the Halifax Seaport. This includes a transition of the Halifax Seaport Farmers' Market vendors from the current Seaport Building to an outdoor model in the warmer months. As we move forward with the new outdoor location, the Market will be located at Pavilion 22 for the winter months.
- HPA also announced plans for the Seaport Market building, specifically the inside main area which will take on a new use and tenant: *The PIER*, which stands for Port Innovation, Engagement and Research.

4. NEW BUSINESS

Item: Information on the Halifax Seaport: overview on plans for the Halifax Seaport Farmers' Market to transition to a new space.

Presenters: Lane Ferguson, Manager of Media Relations and Communications, HPA and Sarah Rector, Halifax Seaport Farmers' Market Vendor Relations and Communications, HPA

- The market will be returning to a weekend-only model, which is what it was before moving to the Seaport, and what it was throughout most of its 270-year history. It has always struggled as a 7-day/week market, and with COVID, it has only gotten worse. HPA wants to create a vibrant, energetic weekend market that works for everyone and sets the vendors up for success
- HPA will work with vendors and the public to create a vibrant, dedicated outdoor space that is animated, energetic and has the feel of a festival or warm-weather event. All necessary amenities will be provided including a permanent industrial all-season cover to provide protection from the sun and the elements

- During the winter months, when there are no cruise ships calling, HPA will repurpose Pavilion22 which has a similar footprint to the existing market. Planning is underway now.

Feedback Question for Committee: As we transition to the next iteration of the Halifax Seaport Farmers' Market, we are focused on building a sustainable model for vendors, customers, and the larger community. What can we do to realize this vision? What outdoor animation would you like to see? What will help make this successful for all involved?

Action Item: Circulate a summary of PCLC feedback to the committee for any further input. Share summary with HSFM project team for their review.

5. PRESENTATION

Port Innovation Presentation

Presented by Andrew Black, Director of Strategic Technology, HPA.

- HPA is embarking on three key innovation projects: Collaborative Decision-Making initiative, better data for shipping project and the PIER at the Seaport.
- Collaborative Decision-Making initiative provides a new way of advancing major infrastructure projects, to create a digital platform that harmonizes information from disparate data models so that we can visualize and quantify the impacts across environmental, economic, and social dimensions. This will be a collaboration including multiple levels of government and the post-secondary sector.
- Better data for shipping project is a collaboration between BlueNode, Saab, IBM/TradeLens and the Port of Halifax, supported by the Ocean Supercluster. Leveraging natural language processing and machine learning, BlueNode will clean and correct data so that it is standardized and interoperable. The result will be faster access to better data which will improve port operations, business development and invoicing functions.
- *The PIER* stands for Port Innovation, Engagement and Research. It will be a resource for the Port and its partners to solve problems, a resource for the community to view Halifax as a true Port City and a resource for HPA to advance its innovative capabilities, talent development and relationships with customers.

Feedback Question for Committee: Based on the presentation, consider opportunities within innovation that HPA might be missing and things we can explore further?

Action Item: Circulate the feedback summary from PCLC members for any further input. Share the summary with HPA's Innovation project team for their review.

6. OPEN SPACE

Discussed the next meeting's topic, Port Sustainability.

Action item: None.

Conclusion: The meeting concluded at 7:30 pm.

Next meeting: March 11, 2021