Island Corridor Foundation

Connecting the places we live, work, learn and play.....

Presentation to Regional District of Nanaimo
January 8, 2019
Who We Are

• Established in 2003
  – Federally registered Charity
  – Operate on a Non-Profit Basis
• Established to Acquire, Preserve, and Develop the rail corridor on Vancouver Island
  – Former E&N Railroad
• Represents the interests of First Nations and Communities located along corridor
  – Over 30 member corridor communities
Governance & Structure

Chief Executive Officer

Manager, Corridor Development

Chief Financial Officer
First Nations Liaison
Volunteer Committees
What we Do

• Acquire
  – Assets fully acquired in 2005
  – 1620 Acres of Land – valued at over $300 Million
  – Corridor is over 290 kilometers long

• Preserve –
  – Maintain continuity of the corridor
  – Land & Asset Management

• Develop
  – Working towards the development of a working railroad
  – Continual work on Trails – over 100 KM completed more planned for 2019
Financial

• Funding – Annual Revenue of $500k to $600K
  – The foundation is self funding and receives no funding from any level of government
    • Revenue is generated through leases
      – Utilities - Telus
    • Granting of Statutory Right of Ways
    • Permissive Tax Exemptions

• Expenses
  – Annual expenses of approximately $450k
    • M of W
    • Salaries
    • Planning – Engineering – Taxes – Capital improvement
Current Status

• Restoring Rail Service to the Island
  – Primary focus of the Foundation

• Where is the Plan?
  – There have been more than 10 studies completed
    • Numerous “plans” developed
      – Everything from $15 million to $300 million
      – Considerable confusion between plans and values associated
        » Is it Langford to Victoria, Nanaimo to Victoria, What about Port Alberni?
      – Considerable confusion as to what is required and costs
Current Status

• Drive for a shared vision
  – Seven town halls – over 500 participants
    • Clear attendees want rail service returned and returned to the entire island
  – Communications Improvements
    • Meetings and discussions with Stakeholders and Public
    • Improved Responsiveness – We have opened the doors
      – We are here today, Alberni tomorrow, Parksville on Thursday
      – Accessible
  – Improving the level of understanding
    • All of the above
    • ICF 101 January 16
  – Meetings with the Province
    • October private meetings with Premier & Minister
    • December Round Table with Stakeholders
    • December follow up with Minister
Current Status

• Stakeholders Meeting
  – Clearly asked the Province for a commitment to develop a comprehensive plan to restore rail service to the entire island
    • To do so without delay
    • To work with the Island Corridor Foundation on the plan
  – Minister has confirmed Province heard the Stakeholders
Next Steps

• Timing is crucial
  – Plans and funding requests must consider upcoming federal election or risk another long delay

• Meeting with the Province to put together a team to develop the plan to restore service
  – First Step will be an assessment of corridor conditions
    • This is not a full blown “study”
      – This is not a marketing or business case – Conditions only
      – Expected to be completed quickly
  – Simultaneously we will start the work on the plan
    • Likely will be an incremental plan