



Wednesday, June 10, 2015

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Mayor and Council
City of Port Alberni
4850 Argyle Street
Port Alberni, BC
V9Y 1V8

Dear Mayor and Council;

During a recent meeting with our Civic Affairs Committee we spent a fair bit of time discussing the current situation that the city faces with respect to the Commercial Garbage Truck dilemma.

Our collective opinion, supported in full by our Board of Directors, is that the City may be best to step aside from all aspects of Commercial Waste collection due to the many factors already expressed. These of course include: Significant Equipment upgrades, mandatory cardboard specific services, limited opportunity to expand along with the knowledge that the Private Sector services are fully capable of handling any and all changes required.

Along with this we'd like to suggest that such a path would likely serve as a catalyst for increased local employment via the private sector; and as already confirmed by the city, no decrease in current staffing levels within the local government.

As well, based on the knowledge that some funding for a 'new truck' has been included in the budget for this year, we suggest that said funds instead be earmarked for the inevitable move toward the collection of Organic Waste.

One concern as mentioned through the media is that there may be a fear of rate increases were the city to get out of the Commercial Sector. While this could be a possibility as in any business scenario it is more likely that the Private Sector will remain competitive thus ensuring that they keep their prices as is or within annual inflation rates. To do otherwise would simply open the door up to further competition in the field which is something that the current players are unlikely to desire. In fact, the possibility of rate reductions may be more realistic.

The Chamber of Commerce would be pleased to comment on this matter to one of your coming Council Meetings however we are not available for Monday, May 25 due to other business commitments.

We appreciate your acceptance of our thoughts on this matter and look forward to learning of your decision in the coming weeks.

Yours truly
ALBERNI VALLEY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

Bill Collette
Executive Director