

## **NEWS RELEASE**

### **The Alberni Valley Chamber of Commerce calls for a Policy Recommendation titled: SUPPORTING NEW INVESTMENT IN INFRASTRUCTURE TO ENHANCE CANADA'S ASIA PACIFIC GATEWAY INITIATIVE at BC Chamber AGM**

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#### **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**Port Alberni, BC** – The Alberni Valley Chamber of Commerce is calling for continued innovation and coordinated investment in the evolution of the 2007 Asia Pacific Gateway Canada Initiative at the BC Chamber of Commerce Annual General Meeting and Conference happening May 25<sup>th</sup> to 27<sup>th</sup> in Victoria.

“This policy recommendation focusses on improving transportation links between Canada and the Pacific including the major ports throughout Asia.” said Bill Collette, Executive Director of the Alberni Valley Chamber of Commerce. “Our recommendation references the value of infrastructure improvements in Canada’s Ports especially that surrounding the viability of the Port Alberni Transshipment Hub as proposed by the Port Alberni Port Authority.”

The Alberni Valley Chamber of Commerce co-authored this policy with input and research provided by PAPA and the BC Chamber itself. At the upcoming AGM, Chamber delegates from across B.C. will vote on this policy, among others put forward. The policy must receive two-thirds of votes to pass. If the policy passes, it will become official BC Chamber policy, and the BC Chamber will advocate it to appropriate tiers of government.

“The Alberni Valley Chamber of Commerce is proud to take this policy forward to our peers from across the province,” said Collette. “Our Chamber is committed to supporting and growing the people who power our community and help us create a more business-friendly B.C. We think this policy will help achieve that and we hope it will get the needed votes from our peer Chambers.”

The BC Chamber AGM and Conference is held in a different B.C. community each year. The event is the largest annual business policy-building forum in the province. Every year, member Chambers of the BC Chamber develop and submit policies for the consideration of their peers. This year, 63 policies have been forward and will be voted on at the AGM policy sessions.

For further details, please contact:

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