## PRESS RELEASE:

## Port Alberni, BC

The Alberni Valley Chamber of Commerce applauds the recent decision of City Council to move forward with expropriation of the former Somass Mill lands located along the picturesque waterfront in Port Alberni's harbour.

In a rapidly changing world, it is imperative that our leaders and the business community join forces to ensure that we are in front of change thus ensuring that our economy diversifies while attracting a wideranging demographic to our beautiful city.

We recognize the history of the lands in question and the decades of good work done in the past but after some years of dormancy and no indicators of any level of restart it is imperative that we turn the page and open a new and exciting chapter for Port Alberni's future.

The Chamber of Commerce representing more than 320 local businesses and supportive of all businesses and their employees is in full support of this initiative. We invite all to imagine what could be in the very near future.

The Alberni Valley Chamber of Commerce was established in December of 1966 and operates with a current FT staff of 6 people under the guide of 13 Volunteers on our Board of Directors. Find us at any of four local Websites including: <a href="www.albernichamber.ca">www.albernichamber.ca</a> (currently being revamped through the BC Launch online program), <a href="www.McLeanMill.ca">www.McLeanMill.ca</a>, <a href="www.BetterBuyPortAlberni.ca">www.BetterBuyPortAlberni.ca</a>, and <a href="www.PortAlberniVisitorCentre.ca">www.PortAlberniVisitorCentre.ca</a>

**Bill Collette** 

CEO