

## Community Liaison Committee

### Minutes

<b>Meeting # 11</b>	<b>Location: Video conference (Microsoft Teams)</b>
<b>Date: April 7, 2021</b>	<b>Time: 7:00 pm – 9:00 pm Mountain</b>

<b>Members, Alternates &amp; Guests</b>		<b>Attendance</b>
Alan Ure	RM School District #6	✓
Atma Sandher	Highway accommodation sector	✓
Betty Watson	RCMP	✓
Bradley Matchett	BC Highway Patrol Golden	✓
Brian Weir	BCTA	
Cam Dawes	Chamber of Commerce	✓
Carmen Narancsik	Kicking Horse River Outfitters (A)	
Chad Parent	Golden Rod & Gun Club	✓
Charles Hamilton	CSRD	
Chelsey Dawes	Parks Canada (G)	✓
Chris Cochran	Town of Golden (A)	
David Wan	COTR	
Jacquie Dust	Ktunaxa Nation	
Gerry Walker	RCMP - Field (G)	✓
James Acton	Golden Cycling Club	
Jeff Watson	RCMP (A)	✓
Jill Dewtie	Golden Community Social Services Co-op	✓
Joanne Sweeting	Tourism Golden	✓
Jon Wilsgard	Town of Golden	✓
Jose Galdamez	Ktunaxa Nation	
Ken Schroeder	Golden and District Air Quality Committee	
Kristi Strobbe	Ktunaxa Nation (A)	
Kyle Hale	Golden & Area Emergency Management	
Lesley Matheson	Parks Canada (G)	✓
Marion Eunson	Ktunaxa Nation	✓
Meg Langley	Wildsight	✓
Michael Wilson	RCMP	
Mike Pecora	Golden Fire Rescue	
Mike Rubenstein	Kicking Horse Mountain Resort	✓
Nick Phillips	Parks Canada	✓
Rachel Darvill	Wildsight (A)	
Ron Oszust	BC Ambulance	✓
Ryan Johannesen	Kicking Horse River Outfitters	✓
Shawn Billy	Shuswap Indian Band	
Steve Jackson	RM School District #6 (A)	✓
Tess Davies	Chamber of Commerce	
Toby Barrett	Kicking Horse Mountain Resort (A)	
Treena Coney	Highway accommodation sector (A)	

TI Corp/MoTI/Project Team		
Art McClean	Operations Manager, MoTI	✓
Erin Slipetz	Site Coordinator, Outreach & Engagement, BCIB	✓
Jack Stuempel	Communications/Engagement Lead, OE team (facilitator)	✓
Jenn Gibson	FN Relations, MoTI	
Jon Chant	Communications/Engagement team	✓
Kathryn Lawrence	Senior Project Manager	✓
Lisa Payne	Associate Project Director, MoTI	✓
Mars Otten-Andrew	Manager, Transportation Planning, OE team	✓
Mike Lorimer	Executive Project Director, TI Corp	✓
Robin Taylor	Environmental Lead, OE team	✓
Tim Stevens	Lead Engineer, OE team	✓
Kicking Horse Canyon Constructors		
Caroline Keddy	Communications Director	✓
Jason Schleppe	Environmental Manager	✓
Joop Van Der Wal	Design-BUILDER's Representative (Project Director)	✓
Kara Mullin	Commercial Manager	
Mike Gash	Construction Manager	✓

1.	Welcome & introductions	Action by:
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Due to the number of attendees, formal introductions were limited to new participants.</li> </ul>	
2.	Confirmation of agenda	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The agenda was adopted as circulated.</li> </ul>	
3.	Previous minutes	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Previous minutes were accepted as circulated.</li> </ul>	
4.	Status of action items	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. <u>Schedule of worker numbers</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>It has been estimated that during the course of construction, the number of workers on the construction site will range from 100 to 300. Kicking Horse Canyon Constructors is currently estimating a peak of approximately 200 craft workers. The peak will likely occur in the summer and be sustained into the fall.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	
5.	Project Update and discussion	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><u>Recent and upcoming construction activity</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Kicking Horse Canyon Constructors team has been setting up its site office, and construction activity has included establishing downslope protection fencing, clearing and hauling.</li> <li>Piling will begin shortly, as will the relocation of a major BC Hydro line.</li> </ul> </li> <li><u>Traffic management - stoppages and closures</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The first extended (24-hour/multi-day) closure is set to begin on April 12, continuing to May 14.</li> <li>KHCC has also announced multi-day closures for the last half of May, affecting non-holiday weekdays only.</li> <li>The project website has introduced a new highway status calendar to complement DriveBC as a travel planning tool by looking further into the future and indicating when the highway through the canyon is open, not just when closures or stoppages are in effect.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	

- People, businesses and associations with websites are encouraged to link to the project website and the calendar page, rather than try to replicate information which is highly subject to change. Issuing information which is out of date or incorrect and out of step with the project website and DriveBC will simply create confusion for motorists.
- The calendar has some limitations; for example it can be downloaded but downloads don't receive changes automatically. It also doesn't offer colour-coding for events, and it doesn't receive live updates the way DriveBC does. While opportunities for improvements will continue to be explored, it fulfills its major function which is to deliver basic information at a glance. DriveBC will always be considered the definitive, most up-to-date source of traffic information.
- There have already been some recent limited closures, and the team invited feedback that might be helpful in preparing for the upcoming extended closure.
- Suggestions included looking closely at sign messaging to ensure maximum clarity, especially at points such as Castle Junction where traffic is diverted to the alternate route during closures. Changeable message signs are used to indicate when the alternate route is to be used, while permanent signs are used to guide motorists to the alternate route. The team will review sign content and placement.
- It was noted that the closure on April 6 resulted in some difficulty accessing the top of Golden Hill, which causes concern for residents, businesses and first responders. KHCC noted that in the event of an emergency, a call to the contractor's emergency response line would ensure access for first responders.
- Because of the limited nature of closures to date, there has been relatively little effect on volumes on the alternate route.
- There was extensive discussion regarding the number, location and message content of highway signs warning of the presence of wildlife. With the observation that local residents along the alternate route have been posting wildlife caution signs on their own properties, the project team was urged to review opportunities for more highway signage on Highway 95 as well as in the canyon. It was noted that, with the objective of raising awareness, the team has been also been emphasizing the need for caution on the alternate route via the website, newsletters and other communications.
- Passes for extended closures
  - The commuter pass system is being rolled out, with "season" commuter passes being issued to motorists who have to travel between Golden and Field for work. With the limitations of the twice-daily commuter windows during extended closures, it is essential to keep numbers contained.
  - Day passes will be issued to accommodate random urgent trips. Applications will be accepted by email the day before the trip, and printable passes, unique for each day, will be issued, also by email.
  - The distribution method for the passes appears to be orderly and well-received.
- Passage for school buses and first responders
  - Arrangements have been made with the school district for school bus passage through the canyon during extended closures. Bus drivers and construction personnel have been briefed and appear well-prepared.
  - KHCC has arranged a private "hotline" number for first responders to

	<p>enable emergency passage through the construction zone on 15 minutes notice. A meeting has been arranged to ensure all parties are fully aware of protocols.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <u>Readiness of the alternate route</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Traffic pattern changes have been implemented in Golden. Motorists generally appear to be adapting, but there has been feedback on some signal timings that will be reviewed.</li> <li>○ All directional signage for the alternate route has been installed.</li> <li>○ New remotely-controlled digital message signs have been installed and are operational.</li> </ul> </li> <li>• <u>Communicating project and traffic information</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ In addition to the growing popularity of the calendar page on the project website, there is a growing list of subscribers to the “newsletter” containing project updates, and traditional media have shown considerable interest in the project and its information bulletins.</li> <li>○ A dedicated Facebook page is being prepared for launch, and KHCC’s call centre is fielding a steady stream of calls for information.</li> <li>○ Committee members were encouraged to share contact information and links to the key project resources for consistent and reliable information.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	
<p>6.</p>	<p>Round Table: issues, opportunities, considerations</p>	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• While the northbound approach to the Kicking Horse River Bridges has been re-aligned in preparation for the diversions to the alternate route, there are still some concerns about introducing higher volumes of two-way truck traffic with unfamiliar drivers over the bridges. Recent line painting may help alleviate some of these concerns. Truck traffic will be monitored to determine if additional signage is warranted.</li> <li>• It was also suggested that driver adjustment to the traffic pattern changes at 9<sup>th</sup> Street be monitored.</li> <li>• RCMP will be increasing their presence on the alternate route to help maintain safe and orderly traffic movement. This increased presence is being supported by a media campaign designed to both inform motorists and reassure residents along the alternate route who have expressed concern about the effects of increased traffic.</li> <li>• It was noted that the Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure’s Commercial Vehicle Safety Enforcement group will also have a higher presence on the alternate route to monitor and enforce safe driving by commercial operators.</li> <li>• For preparedness for an emergency during extended closures, Columbia Valley first responders plan an exercise to ensure coordinated responses.</li> <li>• The School District, with support from the project team, has been raising parental awareness of the project to help adapt to potential effects.</li> <li>• There is some apprehension that closures might creep beyond the committed maximums, causing an impact to tourism and local business. The team was urged to ensure commitments are upheld.</li> <li>• BC Infrastructure Benefits, the provider of the workforce, has been onboarding construction employees. They appear to be achieving a high local labour component, which is a major objective of BCIB and the Community Benefits Agreement.</li> <li>• It was noted that KHCC has appreciated the welcome it has received from the community. In addition, the discussions of the Liaison Committee are beneficial to KHCC, which will strive to complete the project quickly and safely with as little impact to the community as possible.</li> </ul>	

7.	Next steps / next meeting	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li data-bbox="277 258 1289 304">• The group agreed to target mid-June for the next meeting.</li></ul>	

**Notes by Jack Stuempel**