



HAISLA
NATION COUNCIL



Regional District of
Kitimat-Stikine

MEDIA AND PUBLIC INFORMATION RELEASE

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Regional District Kitimat-Stikine, Haisla Nation agree to sale of MK Bay Marina

KITIMAT – Regional District Kitimat-Stikine Chair Bruce Bidgood and Haisla Nation Chief Councillor Ellis Ross are pleased to announce agreement on the sale of the MK Bay Marina to the Haisla Trust Society.

This concludes years of discussions among the Regional District of Kitimat-Stikine, Haisla Nation and Rio Tinto Alcan to reach a negotiated settlement that satisfies the interests of all three parties.

“This is considered a win-win situation” declared Chair Bidgood. “After years of informal partnerships and arrangements to maintain this important regional recreation facility another pivotal milestone is reached. MK Bay Marina is now positioned to undergo a required upgrade and expansion”.

Through its corporate business arm, Haisla Business Operations Inc. and its business partners, the Haisla Nation will upgrade, manage and develop the MK Bay Marina, located southeast of Kitimat and adjacent to Kitamaat Village.

Haisla Nation commits to ensuring the public recreational marina maintains a minimum baseline of 1150 linear feet, 7 boathouse spaces and 117 slips of recreational moorage space in alignment with the current configuration. Haisla Nation intends to run a public marina that is equal or superior to the existing marina in terms of quality, public access and level of service.

Employees’ succession arrangements have been reached and marina staff will continue their employment under Haisla ownership.

MK Bay Marina and surrounding area has been an issue for our people for more than 30 years” says Chief Ross.

“The marina is right in the middle of our territory and was used for a number of purposes, including the storage of our oolichan grease. It generates economic activity and we think its future is even brighter with some upgrades and a greater ability to take advantage of the current and future economic activity on the Douglas Channel.”

The MK Bay Marina land was owned by Rio Tinto Alcan and sold to the Regional District in 1975 on the understanding that the Regional District would operate the area as a public recreational facility. There will be a covenant on the land to ensure that this purpose continues. Haisla Nation is also engaged in discussions for the development of a commercial loading facility on adjacent lands owned by Rio Tinto Alcan.

Chief Ross thanks “Rio Tinto Alcan, the Regional District and the Province for their good work with our team to reach an agreement that will benefit everyone in the region, Haisla and non-Haisla alike.”

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