

WANT A BETTER ROAD? NOW IS THE TIME TO ACT!

A message from the Bamfield Community Affairs Society and the Huu-ay-aht First Nations

A decision will soon be made by the government of BC on whether or not to fund the Bamfield Road Upgrade. Please email MLA, Scott Fraser, asking Cabinet and the Treasury Board to fund the Bamfield Road Upgrade.

The emails should be personal and based on your experience.

(see below key points of the Bamfield Road Upgrade Proposal)

HERE ARE SOME SUGGESTIONS TO ASSIST YOU IN CRAFTING YOUR PERSONAL MESSAGE:

- **SEND:** to MLA, Honourable Scott Fraser (salutation is Dear Minister Fraser): scott.fraser.mla@leg.bc.ca
- **SUBJECT LINE:** put “**FIX THE BAMFIELD ROAD**”
- **CC:** to Bob Beckett (bbeckett@acrd.bc.ca) and Chief Robert Dennis (robert.d@huuayaht.org) so we can keep track of response.
- **INTRODUCTION:** for example, as a Bamfield resident or member of a committee in Bamfield. Say you are sending a message through Minister Fraser to members of the Cabinet and Treasury Board.
- **DESCRIPTION:** your concerns over the years about the condition of the road from Port Alberni to Bamfield. Say a little about how it has affected you, your family, and your community.
- **CONTEXT:** Our MLA Scott Fraser has been trying to get improvements made to the road for 16 years. I’m having a hard time understanding why it is taking so long to get this done. The Premier drove the road last November and vowed to upgrade the road.
- **THE PROPOSAL:** The Huu-ay-aht First Nations has put forward a plan to chip seal the road and make other safety improvements.
- **ENOUGH IS ENOUGH:** Too many people have been injured or killed on this road, including two UVic students last September. The families of the students killed want the road improved as a legacy to their children, and I want the road improved as a legacy to all the people who’ve died or been injured on this road.
- **SEPTEMBER 13:** The anniversary of the bus tragedy, September 13, will be marked. We expect support for this project by then.
- **SUPPORT:** Other First Nations, the City of Port Alberni, the Alberni-Clayoquot Regional District, the University of Victoria, and many others support the road upgrade.
- **SAFETY:** The proposed road upgrades and chip sealing will help keep residents, workers and visitors safe.
- **CONCLUSION:** We all deserve a safe road. Please support this project.

SEND A MESSAGE TO SCOTT FRASER TODAY

WE HAVE NEVER BEEN SO CLOSE!

Pass this request on to friends and visitors. Share on Social Media

BAMFIELD ROAD UPGRADE PROPOSAL HIGHLIGHTS

Huu-ay-aht First Nations hired Urban Systems Engineering in 2018 to develop a proposal to upgrade the road by:

- Chip sealing, with pavement in critical locations for traction and braking
- Road alignment improvements where possible
- Drainage improvements
- Barrier flares and railings at bridges
- Lighting at critical areas
- Barrier placement at critical locations (steep side slopes, obstructions, and identified obstacles)
- Flooding controls and debris catchment areas
- Reflectors and delineators for guidance and avoidance

A working group, involving Huu-ay-aht First Nations, Ministry of Transportation & Infrastructure (MOTI), Ministry of Indigenous Relations & Reconciliation (MIRR), the engineers and Area A Director Bob Beckett, reached agreement on the scope of the project and the budget in January 2020.

The estimated cost of the project over 3 years is \$30.7 million, including a 40% contingency allowance. Huu-ay-aht First Nations proposes to contribute \$5 million of that cost.

The maintenance budget for the improved road is \$1.1 million annually, including an allowance for periodic replacement of the chip seal coating, to be shared by the same partners who now pay for road maintenance: The Province of BC, Western Forest Products and Mosaic.

In November 2019, Premier Horgan drove the road from Port Alberni to Bamfield and committed to making safety improvements. One of the biggest hazards on the road is dust and chip sealing will eliminate that.

Scott Fraser, Minister of Indigenous Relations and Reconciliation, has submitted the Road Upgrade Proposal to Cabinet which, if successful, will be sent on to Treasury Board for final approval.

Huu-ay-aht First Nations has letters of support from Port Alberni, the Alberni-Clayoquot Regional District, UVic, the Bamfield Marine Sciences Centre, the Alberni Valley Chamber of Commerce, Indigenous Tourism BC, the Tourism Industry Association of BC, the Nuu-chah-nulth Tribal Council, Ucluelet, Western Forest Products and local First Nations.