



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

OCTOBER 7, 2016

PORT HARDY MULTIPLEX PROPOSAL RECEIVES MAJOR CORPORATE FUNDING COMMITMENT



On Thursday October 6, the District of Port Hardy announced the first major corporate commitment to funding the proposed Multiplex project. Attendees of the Multiplex Open House at the Port Hardy Civic Centre were witness to Marine Harvest committing \$250,000 toward construction of a brand new facility.

District Council says it is thrilled to see local companies offering support for a major investment in the community. District Council's vision is to create key amenities that attract and retain professionals and keep the community thriving while attracting new investment. This project supports those efforts by providing a regional facility and a gathering place.

Key Facts:

- The Port Hardy Pool is over 40 years old and requires major upgrading and repair to remain operational. An overall assessment of the pool was completed in 2015 with options including repairing or replacing. The District went to the public to seek input on the direction Council should consider and the survey results returned 74% in favour of building a new aquatic facility.
- A referendum (Assent Voting Opportunity) will be held October 22, 2016. If approved by the electors of Port Hardy, the District will be looking to pursue grant funding for 2/3 of the \$12,000,000 project.
- The District of Port Hardy has a population of 4008 (2011 Census). The District offers many services to the North Island Residents, businesses and visitors. Recreation is an essential service it is proud to offer.
- Marine Harvest is the world's largest salmon aquaculture company, with Canadian offices located in Campbell River and Port Hardy, B.C.
- Marine Harvest Canada is one of the region's largest private employers, with over 500 direct staff dedicating to raising and processing fresh salmon.
- Marine Harvest Canada provides annual support to over 120 local organizations and projects.



Photo: Vincent Erenst, Managing Director Marine Harvest Canada and Hank Bood, Mayor District of Port Hardy review the plans for the Multiplex Project

Quotes:

Mayor of Port Hardy, Hank Bood:



“We are seeing a lot of corporate support for this exciting new project. With this huge financial boost, we’re pleased that an important employer like Marine Harvest agrees with Port Hardy’s vision of building a strong and vibrant community.”

“This multi-million dollar project needs the approval of the electorate, federal and provincial grants, donations and corporate sponsorships, and District Council envisions this project as a partnership that supports growth in the region.”

“The donation from Marine Harvest is not only a financial contribution but recognition that the North Island is an area of viable business growth. Infrastructure investments such as the Multiplex will support job creation and economic growth – all helping to improve and sustain the high quality of life Port Hardy and the surrounding region offers.”

Managing Director, Marine Harvest Canada, Vincent Erenst:

“Like Port Hardy, our company is wanting to grow, and by investing in this region we can ensure this remains a great place to live – for those living here now and for those yet to arrive.”

“We want to be a part of the excitement that Port Hardy and the surrounding region have to offer. This monetary donation is the largest we have ever provided to one single project, and I think clearly indicates the level of commitment our company has to the area.”

For more information please contact :
Allison McCarrick, CAO
District of Port Hardy
(250) 949-6665
general@porthardy.ca
www.porthardy.ca