



PORT COQUITLAM & DISTRICT HUNTING & FISHING CLUB

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Letter from the President to Members at the AGM 2020

Dear Members, this letter goes out to you on the eve of many changes - positive and concerning - that will affect your club and your pursuits and while the news should not be surprising to many of you, there is also an opportunity for you and your community to take steps to ensure the future you desire for yourself and for those to come.

Lease Renewal

Earlier in December, after hard work by your executive, club staff and with the timely input of our greater community of users including law enforcement renters, we were able to impress upon the City of Coquitlam our need to stay at our current Burke Mountain location for the upcoming lease period. After a positive recommendation by the city planning department, the City Council gave their approval to the Province for our continued operation for the next three years. If we had not received that approval, we would have had to wind down our activities within two.

However, we have been put on notice that PCDHFC as it currently operates will eventually not meet the City's vision for Burke Mountain. Whether that comes after this period or even the next period after, the terms of our lease make it clear - when the City formalizes its plans for development, by then we must have prepared to move locations or shut down as an operating range.

Your club has formally engaged with the City and will engage with the Province to search for such an ideal replacement location. When a suitable site is identified, the next great undertaking would be funding both the acquisition of and development of the new site, even as we must diligently address our obligations on the existing lease.

CFO Inspection and Mitigation

Unfortunately, the time we were given has been hampered by the recent report by the CFO that raised deficiencies in our range envelope as found by the measurements of the most recent CFO inspector. In order to continue operating, we must find the resources to rebuild our rear berms for our largest ranges: 1, 3, 7 and 10 and also are forced to introduce unwelcome solutions to reduce the backstop requirements including overhead baffles and ground baffles.

Other challenges to our community

The past year our pursuits and traditions have also been put on notice. The Liberal government, though returned as a minority, has declared that it will take action to ban 'assault rifles' and to permit municipalities to ban handguns. As a club where nearly all our members live within the cities of the Lower Mainland, any such move will greatly impact your property and your lifestyle. Meanwhile, the apparent effects of our changing climate has fueled a debate on public and



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private activities in the wilderness and on our waters. While your executive will again reach out to community leaders to represent your interests, it is up to the individual to make their voices heard directly to your MPs and to the media. On such an important issue deferring to others is not an option. We have an advocacy page here providing you with information which you may use to engage your representatives:

<http://pcdhfc.com/mandate-letter-from-the-prime-minister-to-minister-blair/>

Our operations, spending and at the AGM and upcoming SGM

Given the scope of the challenge facing us, the executive of PCDHFC - including any new leadership elected at the AGM in February - must present a reasonable options to the membership that ensures we can properly prepare for these changes while balancing the existing interests. Toward that, at the AGM a proposal will be presented to table a plan of changes for an upcoming SPECIAL GENERAL MEETING to be held shortly after.

What you can do as a member

If you feel as strongly as we do about ensuring the future of your club, we urge you to attend the upcoming AGM at January 26th to hear more about the unprecedented challenge facing us and to give your input on direction. We again invite those members who have expertise and time to contribute to our plans to step up to fill positions on the executive.

My gratitude to:

On the issues I raised above and on a myriad of range operation measures the executive employed I wish to thank treasurer Jack Fletcher, secretary Tyson Nicholas, past-president Tony Zorn, vice-president Steve Wade, trustees Peter Hobot, Chris Scott, Adam Brawn, Brian Largy, Paul Noble, and Jim Hamilton for their advice and efforts as well as to all directors and volunteers who stepped up this year on what has turned out to be a very able executive. In addition, I thank Terry at the office, Leo at the range and Claude for their hard work.

Sincerely,

Keith Loh
President
PCDHFC