New Residents Information Package

VILLAGE OF ALERT BAY
HOME OF THE KILLER WHALE

Alert Bay
Index

Description 1
Local Government-Village of Alert Bay 1
Utilities 2
Transportation 3
Construction/Engineering 3
Services 3-4
Communications 4
Medical Services 4-5
Education Facilities 5
Accommodations 6
Restaurants 6
Recreation 6
Alert Bay Clubs and Organizations 7
Churches 7
Shops and Stores 7
Historic Background of Alert Bay 8-9
Street Map 10
General Description of Alert Bay

Alert Bay is located on Cormorant Island about 3 Kilometers off the Northeast coast of Vancouver Island and is approximately 180 miles by water from the city of Vancouver.

Both Alert Bay and Cormorant Island were named after the coastal cruisers H.M.S. Alert and H.M.S. Cormorant while they were engaged in surveying the coastal waters of British Columbia between the years of 1846 and 1861. Alert Bay has a population of about 1,500 and is comprised of the Village of Alert Bay, 'Namgis First Nation, Whe-la-la-u Area Council and Regional District of Mount Waddington. Cormorant Island is about 3 miles long and half a mile wide. The average rainfall is 60 inches per year and the temperature averages 75 degrees Fahrenheit in summer and 35 in winter.

Since the decline in fishing industry, tourism is increasing in this area. The other labour force is employed in transportation and communication services, community and professional services, government services, accommodation and food services, etc.

Local Government - Village of Alert Bay

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Role</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Contact</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mayor</td>
<td>Dennis Buchanan</td>
<td>250-974-5213</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Councillor</td>
<td>Kane Gordon</td>
<td>250-974-5213</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Councillor</td>
<td>Lisanne Granger</td>
<td>250-974-5213</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Councillor</td>
<td>Larry Hill</td>
<td>250-974-5213</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Councillor</td>
<td>Sandra Parkinson</td>
<td>250-974-5213</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chief Administrative Officer</td>
<td>Lyle McNish</td>
<td>Work: 250-974-5213</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td><a href="mailto:cao@alertbay.ca">cao@alertbay.ca</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Deputy Chief Administrative Officer</td>
<td>Connie Larson</td>
<td>Work: 250-974-5213</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td><a href="mailto:deputy@alertbay.ca">deputy@alertbay.ca</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ICBC Lead &amp; Administration</td>
<td>Patricia Lawson</td>
<td>Work: 250-974-5213</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td><a href="mailto:autoplan-dl@alertbay.ca">autoplan-dl@alertbay.ca</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Administrative Office Clerk</td>
<td>Lyn Hawley</td>
<td>Work: 250-974-5213</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td><a href="mailto:officeclerk@alertbay.ca">officeclerk@alertbay.ca</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Visitor Centre Manager</td>
<td>Norine Smith</td>
<td>Work: 250-974-5024</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td><a href="mailto:info@alertbay.ca">info@alertbay.ca</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Public Works Foreman</td>
<td>Dave Leslie</td>
<td>Cell: 250-974-7091</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td><a href="mailto:forman@alertbay.ca">forman@alertbay.ca</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Harbour Manager</td>
<td>Stephen Bruce Sr</td>
<td>Work: 250-974-5727</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td><a href="mailto:boatharbour@alertbay.ca">boatharbour@alertbay.ca</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Animal Control</td>
<td>David Faren</td>
<td>Cell: 250-974-4188</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alert Bay Campground</td>
<td></td>
<td>Cell: 250-974-7028</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Seasonal: October to May</td>
<td></td>
<td>Work: 250-974-5213</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td><a href="mailto:officclerk@alertbay.ca">officclerk@alertbay.ca</a></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Utilities
Water: One 111.252 metres (365 ft) well; no treatment required (chlorine). Pump's capacity approximate total is 1136.62 litres (300 gallon) per minute. A 757.082 litres (200,000 gallon), 19.507 metres (64 ft)-high steel tank is located at the highest elevation on Cormorant Island. Billings are sent out quarterly by the Village of Alert Bay.

Tuesday: Residential Garbage Pick Up. Have your garbage to the curb by 8:00am

Garbage must be contained within a 20-gallon garbage can with a secure lid. If you have extra garbage purchase your extra garbage stickers: $3.50 each at the Village Office Monday to Friday 8:30 AM to 4:30 PM. **Additional garbage placed without tags will not be picked up.** Please ensure all your garbage is in an animal proof bin as we do have additional charges for cleaning up your garbage should animals or wind scatter your waste. Those charges will be placed on your utility bill. Reducing additional tipping fees, if our waste collectors see that you have recyclable products within your residential waste it will be left behind. Please avoid this inconvenience by recycling your products and taking advantage of the curbside pick up. Thank you

Transfer Station Hours: Tuesday and Friday 12:00 PM-3:45 PM  Saturday 8:30 AM-3:45 PM

Curbside Collection

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Metal</th>
<th>Paper/ Cardboard</th>
<th>Plastic</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>• Metal Cans</td>
<td>• Corrugated Cardboard</td>
<td>• Only Types 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 &amp; 7 plastic packaging can go in the curbside recycling.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Metal Lids and Closures</td>
<td>• Paper Cups</td>
<td>• No Type 6 Foam Packaging</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Metal Aerosol Cans</td>
<td>• Milk Cartons</td>
<td>• Bottles</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Spiral Wound Cans (Steel Ends)</td>
<td>• Aseptic Containers</td>
<td>• Jars</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Aluminum Foil and Foil Containers</td>
<td>• Multi-laminated Paper Packaging</td>
<td>• Clamshells</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Items taken at the depot:**
(Do not include in your blue box)

• Electronic Waste
• Household batteries
• TV’s and computer equipment
• Light bulbs
• Books
• Glass
• Tires
• Lead acid batteries (auto/marine)
• Old cell phones
• Small electrical appliances
• Depositables (no refund)
• Plastic film (not stretch wrap)
• Styrofoam (no packing peanuts)

Curbside Recycling Pick-up

**Wednesday**
(Village of Alert Bay/Sandyville Regional District)

**Thursday**
(’Namgis/Whe-la-la-u & Front Street Regional District)

**Have your Blue Box onto the curb by 8:00 AM**
Animal Control: License fees for dogs four (4) months of age and over are collected each year by the Village of Alert Bay and every license issued shall expire on the thirty-first (31st) of December each year. The fees are: $50.00 for each unspayed female dog and unneutered male dog. $10.00 for each spayed female dog and neutered male dog. Replacement dog tag $2.50. The by-law states that no person shall keep, possess or harbour more than two (2) dogs within the Village of Alert Bay boundaries. Kennel fee $100.00.

Impoundment fees:
- First Impoundment $40.00
- Second Impoundment $60.00
- Plus-Each Additional Impoundment $30.00
- Daily Maintenance fee $10.00
- Euthanization Fee (Actual Cost plus Travel) (Deposit) $150.00

Animal Control Officer-David Faren Cell: 250-974-4188

Electrical: BC Hydro and Power Authority underwater line from Vancouver Island to Alert Bay.

ÓNamgis Gas Station Daily 11:00 AM-2:00 PM 250-974-5556 ext 3113
33 School Road

Propane: Monday to Saturday 9:00 AM-5:00 PM Shop-Rite 250-974-2777

Transportation
- Taxi Service 40 K Taxi 250-974-5525 or 250-974-5526
- BC Ferry Corporation 250-956-4533
- Moorage facilities available 250-974-5727
- Stephen Bruce Sr-Manager Sheltered dock
  boatharbour@alertbay.ca VHF 66A
  http://www.alertbay.ca

Construction/Engineering
- Colin Skinner Enterprises 250-974-5843
- D & A Contracting 250-974-8248
- A.B.C. Enterprises 250-974-4091
- J.K.R Works 250-974-5390
- Kane Gordon Electrical 250-974-2029
- M & M Contracting 250-974-5708

Services
- Vancity - Tuesday, Wednesday, 10:00 AM-3:30 PM
  30 Maple Road Friday, 10:00 AM-4:00 PM
  (250) 974-3165 Saturday, 10:00 AM-2:00 PM
  24H ATM

- Hair by Natasha Pittman - Tuesday to Saturday 12:00 PM-8:00 PM
  001 Fir Street by appointment or walks ins 250-974-8530

- Government Liquor Store: 10:30 AM to 6:00 PM
  Tuesday-Saturday 250-974-5450

- Bayside Cold Beer & Wine: Daily 11:00 AM-11:00 PM 24H ATM 250-974-5858

- Post Office: 9:00 AM-5:00 PM Monday to Friday 250-974-5433
Child Care Resource and Referral consultant Eleanor Gee
http://www.pacific-care.bc.ca

1-888-480-2273

Skookum Graphics
Printing, graphics & web design
http://www.skookumgraphics.com

250-949-0327

Village of Alert Bay
ICBC Autoplan 12:00 PM to 4:00 PM
15 Maple Road
ICBC Drivers Licensing, BCID, BC Service Card 12:00 PM to 4:00 PM
250-974-5213
Property assessments/taxes/utilities
Fax: 250-974-5470
photocopying and fax services available
officeclerk@alertbay.ca
Monday-Friday, 9:00 AM-5:00 PM
http://www.alertbay.ca
Closed: Saturdays, Sundays and Holidays

Alert Bay Visitor Centre
Local, BC and some other visitor brochures/guides
118 Fir Street
Summer Hours July-August: Daily 9:00 AM-5:00 PM
250-974-5024
Winter Hours: September-June: Mondays to Fridays, 9:00 AM-5:00 PM
Fax: (250) 974-5026
Closed for Lunch 1:00 PM to 2:00 PM unless otherwise posted
info@alertbay.ca
Closed Saturday, Sunday and Holidays
http://www.alertbay.ca

Communications
CBC Radio 104 (FM)
CFNI 1240 Coast Radio Station (AM)
Cable TV (Shaw) Port Hardy
Telus Communications
North Island Gazette - Newspaper
Vancouver Sun - Newspaper
The Province - Newspaper

Fire Protection:
Alert Bay Volunteer Fire Department 911
Fire Chief: Kane Gordon 250-974-8212
Assistant Fire Chief: Harry Alfred Jr 250-974-8073

Ambulance Service:
Provincial Ambulance Service 911
Unit Chief: Sue Bell 250-974-9911

Royal Canadian Mounted Police:
Alert Bay Detachment 911
Sergeant: Jennifer Prunty non-emergency 250-974-5544

Provincial Emergency Program:
Coordinator-24 Hours a day: Shannon Alfred
Cell: 250-974-7130

Medical Services
Cormorant Island Community Health Centre (Hospital):
49 School Road
Information 250-974-5585
Sr Manager Rural Health Services Mount Waddington: Cory McDonald 250-902-6028
Medical Services

Doctors:
Dr. Dan Cutfeet
48 School Road
250-974-5520

Dr. Franklin Clarke
48 School Road
250-974-5520

Dr. John Fitzgerald
74 Fir Street
250-974-3106

‘Namgis Dental Clinic
48 School Road
250-974-5205

‘Namgis Health Centre
48 School Road
Doctor's Clinic, Social Workers, Homemakers, Counselling, Health Care, Baby Clinics, Visiting Specialists, Recreation, Youth Program, full time house parents, Maya'an Elders Centre, etc.
250-974-5522

‘Namgis Treatment Centre
Drug and or Alcohol Treatment Centre. 16 bed residential 6-week program, Counselling, workshops, outreach services, 24-hour emergency phone line, 3-week refresher program, psychologist, health Nurse, etc. Director: Dean Green
250-974-5522

Full Circle Clinic: R.Ac., ADS Acupuncture & Detox Specialist
Christine O'Donnell
250-974-2989

I’Kila Therapy’s
Christina Cook
22 Front Street
hamumu52@gmail.com
Offering Traditional Chinese Medicine based modalities of bodywork: Shiatsu or Reiki $50.00 per hour, Hot Stone or Swedish $60.00 per hour. Also Ariculotherapy and Iridology. I’Kila (Healing to make one feel good)
250-974-8182

Cormorant Island Hospital Auxiliary Thrift Shop
Tuesday 10:00 AM-12:00 PM
Saturday 1:00 PM-3:00 PM

Education
Alert Bay School
Kindergarten to Grade seven. Jenn Turner
250-974-5569

T’lisalagi’lakw School
Nursery to Grade seven. Principal: Shane Douglas
250-974-5591

Cormorant Island Learning Centre
Randy Bell-Youth Employment Officer
250-974-5556
Accommodations
Alert Bay Accommodations 250-974-2226
Alert Bay Cabins 250-974-5457
Alert Bay Campground Seasonal: June-September Cell: 250-974-7028
Alert Bay Campground Village Office April-May 250-975-5213
Alert Bay Campground CLOSED: October-March Village Office: 250-974-5213
Alert Bay Lodge 250-974-2410
Bayside Inn (licensed) 24H ATM 250-974-3101
Janet Boon’s Guest House 250-974-5947
Orca Inn 250-667-6260
Nimpkish Hotel 1- 888-503-8610
Passagemaker 1 778-421-0113
Passn Thyme Inn (licensed) 250-974-2670
Sea Glass Cabin 250-949-0327
Sea Glass Suite 250-949-0327
Stay in the Bay 250-974-8456
The Artist Cottage 250-974-5947
The Old Customs House 250-974-5869
The Seine Boat Inn 1- 877-334-9465

Restaurants
Bayside Grill 250-974-3101
Daily 8:00 AM-8:00 PM 24H ATM 250-974-2777
Shop Rite Deli 250-974-2670
Monday to Saturday 9:00 AM-6:00 PM
Sunday 10:00 AM-5:00 PM

Passn Thyme Inn 250-974-0004
Tuesday-Saturday 11:00 AM-8:00 PM

Cook Shack 250-974-2670
Tuesday-Saturday 11:30 AM-8:00 PM
Sunday 3:00 PM-8:00 PM

Recreation
Lloyd’s Lanes Bowling alley (6 lanes) to book bowling alley Edgar Colcol: 250-974-4466
- Namgis Treatment Centre Monday 1:00 PM-3:00 PM

-Drop in bowling Friday 7:00 PM-9:00 PM
Alley Rental: Regular Bowling $30.00 per hour, Cosmic Bowling $40.00 per hour

Community Hall 250-974-2649
-schedule of activities available from the Village of Alert Bay Hall Closed July

Lawrence Ambers Memorial Rec Centre 250-974-5556
-Check outside door for Schedule

Tennis Courts - adjacent to Community Hall
Skate Board Park - adjacent to Community Hall
Horseshoe Pitch at Ecological Park Picnic area
**Museums**

U'mista Cultural Centre  
September to June Tuesdays-Saturdays, 9:00 AM-5:00 PM  
July to August Daily 9:00 AM-5:00 PM  
Fax: 250-974-5499  
info@umista.ca  
http://www.umista.ca  
250-974-5403

Alert Bay Library-Museum  
Monday, Friday and Saturday, 1:00 PM-4:00 PM,  
Wednesday ONLY 1:00 PM-5:00 PM  
abplb@island.net  
http://alertbay.bc.libraries.coop/  
250-974-5721

**Alert Bay Clubs and Organizations**

Cormorant Recreation Association  
Elizabeth Nelson  
250-974-4196

Ladies Auxiliary to the Royal  
Canadian Legion Branch #198  
Lisanne Granger  
250-974-5826

Hospital Auxiliary  
Anne Sennin  
250-974-5426

Royal Canadian Legion Branch #198  
Murray Clarke  
250-510-1524

Junior Rangers  
Chuck Wong  
250-974-5451

Brent Valan  
250-974-2404

Robert Campbell  
250-974-5390

Marcus Shaughnessy  
250-974-3831

**Churches**

Anglican Church  
William Hubbard  
250-974-5844

Catholic Church  
Anne Sennin  
250-974-5426

House of Prayer  
Andrew Speck  
250-974-2677

Glad Tidings Pentecostal  
Marcus Shaughnessy  
250-974-7599

**Shops and Stores**

Alert Bay Drugs  
24H ATM  
Paul Fletcher  
250-974-5712

Alert Bay Library-Museum  
Joyce Wilby  
250-974-5721

Alert Bay Visitor Centre  
Norine Smith  
250-974-5024

Culture Shock Interactive Gallery  
Donna Cranmer  
250-974-2484

Shop Rite Stores/Rona  
David Cote  
250-974-2777

The Art Loft  
CW Petersen  
250-974-8311

U'mista Cultural Centre  
Joseph Isaac  
250-974-5403
Historic Background of Alert Bay

It was in the late 1700's, when Captain George Vancouver anchored his vessel, the H.M.S. Discover, at Xwalkw (mouth of the 'Namgis River). While Captain Vancouver visited the 'Namgis, the Island now known as Cormorant Island, lay just a short distance away. The 'Namgis First Nation used Cormorant Island as a place to bring their people who had passed on. They also lived on the Island on a seasonal basis.

In 1846, the Island was named for the coastal cruiser, the H.M.S. Cormorant and later, about 1858, the Bay was named after the H.M.S. Alert which was then stationed on the Northwest coast.

The period of 1865-1870, saw the beginning of active settlement on Cormorant Island and the nucleus of the formation of the Village of Alert Bay. Two explorers and entrepreneurs named Wesley Spencer and Aulden Huson examined the possibilities of resource development at Suquash and Gwa'ni (the 'Namgis River) before establishing on Cormorant Island. In 1870, they built a small saltery, where local salmon was salted and mildcured before being sent to Victoria. At that time Spencer and Huson leased Cormorant Island from the Government.

As their business grew, Spencer and Huson became aware of the need to establish a permanent work force on the Island. To this end the partners approached the Reverend James Hall, a missionary of the Church Missionary Society, who had just established a mission at Fort Rupert in 1877. They persuaded the Reverend to relocate to Alert Bay and in 1878, a mission house was built to school the first nation boys and girls.

By 1887, the settlement was beginning to show significant signs of progress. In 1881, a store and cannery were built. Reverend Hall supervises the construction of the "Christ Church," which was to achieve several goals such as: the learning of new trades to the first nations and the provision of construction material. A saw mill was established between 1886-1887. The saw mill eventually produced lumber to be used in the construction of homes and a new school for boys.

Government recognition of the growing community came during the 1890's, with the relocation of the Indian Agency from Fort Rupert to Alert Bay. That same year saw the arrival of law and order when the first Provincial Police Constable- Philip Woolacott was stationed in the community.

Education was of prime concern in those early days and in 1894, W.A. Corker was established as Principal of the newly constructed Residential School for boys. The school was situated on approximately 4-5 acres of land and was primarily established to teach the skills of carpentry, furniture making, boat building, animal husbandry, as well as regular academic school work, to first nation boys.

Water transportation has always been an important ingredient of Alert Bay's history. In 1896, the Union Steamship "Comox", made its first regular call while en-route to Rivers Inlet lying to the North. Many other ships representing a variety of purposes ranging from the transportation of goods, to the delivery of visitors who have come to our Island over the years. In more recent years, when the community was at its peak as the centre of the region, regular access was provided by ferry from Kelsey Bay via Beaver Cove. Regular ferry service is now provided from Port McNeill with direct runs to Alert Bay interspersed by trips to neighbouring Malcolm Island. 1902, saw British Columbia Packers Association purchase the cannery from its founders.

A giant step was taken during 1911-1912, when the Dominion Government established the first communications system to link Alert Bay and other now-established communities in the region, also to the Southern centres of Vancouver and Victoria. The system comprised a very crude telegraph service but proved a useful tool to the local industry. In 1912, the Dominion Government built a wireless station in Alert Bay. The station operated principally as an aid to navigation, although was used in other capacities from time to time.
In 1909, the first St. George's Hospital was opened. Despite this trend, Alert Bay continued to develop and in 1925, a new St. George's Hospital was opened to replace the original building which suffered fire damage during 1923. That same year a beautiful chapel was built next to the hospital as a memorial to Mrs. Paterson Hall, who, upon her retirement as president of the Women's Auxiliary of the Church of England in Canada, was given an honorarium, which she in turn gave to the Columbia Coast Mission for the erection of the Memorial Chapel. The furnishings were the gift of Mrs. Georgina M. Pennell, also of the Montreal Diocesan Women's Auxiliary. The Toronto Women's Auxiliary, Babies' Branch, donated the baptismal font. The chapel is now located next to the century old Anglican Church. On June 10, 2004 St. George's Hospital was lost to fire.

During 1929, the St. Michael's Residential School, now the Namgis House, was constructed to serve, educate and house native children from outlying areas in the region. The school was solidly built of brick and designed to accommodate 200 children aged from seven to fifteen years old. Our Residential School was one of the last ones to close in the early 1970's. The building was given to the Namgis First Nation April 1973. February 15, 2015 was the beginning of the demolition of this building.

Years passed and the community continued to diversify its activities to include dairy farming, raising of poultry, growing of vegetables, etc. The Nimpkish Hotel became an established part of the community providing accommodation for the traveler and entertainment for the local people.

In 1946, the Village of Alert Bay became incorporated. At the same time the region was commencing a new era of prosperity which would see profitable growth in the fishing and logging industries. Alert Bay flourished as the supply centre for necessary life-sustaining goods and provided the desired recreation and entertainment to the many people employed in fishing and logging. A community hall was built, electricity came to the community, a taxi service was established, a bus service operated on a limited scale and the volunteer firemen of Alert Bay received a shipment of their new fire engine.

Air transportation now began to serve an important role in the development of the community. By 1948, the first elements of an air transportation service had been established to serve the development of the area's natural resources. Until recently only float planes could operate from the Island but during 1972, a landing strip of wheeled aircraft was constructed. The runway which was paved during 1979 is approximately 2,900 feet long.

The present countenance of the Alert Bay community reflects much of its past history. Visitors to the area will be fascinated by the mixing and contrasting of the cultures. The native art forms are represented by their carving, paintings weaving and metal crafting. Artifacts and events of the past can be viewed in the community's U'mista Cultural Centre and the Library-Museum. Above all a casual stroll from one end of the community to the other instills one with an appreciation for the efforts of the early pioneers who carved themselves a place to live, work and created the roots of the village which now exists on Cormorant Island.