

**Property Valuation Services Corporation
Board of Directors
Minutes
April 25, 2008**

Attendees

Lloyd P. Hines	Carroll Publicover	Debbie Kampen
John Prall	Darren Bruckschwaiger	Russell Walker
Trudy LeBlanc	Bobby McNeil	Greg Keefe
Ken Simpson	Mervin Hartlen	

Staff Attendees

Kathy Gillis	Jean Thorburn
Russ Adams	Tracy Williams

Other Attendees

Mark Singer, Grant Thornton
Doug Rundell, BC Assessment

1. Agenda

The draft agenda was reviewed and a Municipal Interface Update was added under Business Arising.

Moved by R. Walker, seconded by B. McNeil that the agenda be accepted. Motion carried.

2. Minutes

- The draft Minutes of March 31, 2008 were reviewed.

Moved by D. Bruckschwaiger, seconded by M. Hartlen that the Minutes be accepted. Motion carried.

3. Business Arising

Private Members Bill – Re; Assessment Notice

J. McEvoy contacted the Liberal Caucus Office, regarding the Private Members Bill that was introduced during the previous Legislature session. He explained that changes to the assessment notice (including assessment value history) is an operational function and indicated that the PVSC will be reviewing this information prior to the 2009 notice being mailed.

The Chair indicated he would be willing to meet with the political leaders and caucuses at their convenience to have a discussion on PVSC's role and the assessment function.

**Moved by C. Publicover, seconded by R. Walker that a letter from L. Hines be sent to the provincial political leaders suggesting a meeting (after the Houses closes) and as well asking for caucus meetings over the summer months.
Motion carried.**

HST Status

M. Singer, Grant Thornton, provided an update on the HST issue. Canada Revenue Agency (CRA) has indicated they are still reviewing the matter; it is likely they will reaffirm their position of not designating the Corporation as a municipality for purposes of receiving a partial reimbursement of HST paid by the Corporation.

The provincial Department of Finance has had discussions with their federal counterparts pursuing inclusion of PVSC on the provincial exemption list under the Reciprocal Tax Agreement (RTA). The discussions have noted the current CRA reasoning. The federal Department of Finance has raised issues of the legislative language creating the PVSC that may not be consistent with inclusion in the RTA. The Province has noted that they do not have enough time to consider any legislation modification for the current sitting of the Legislature.

L. Hines advised that the Hon. Peter MacKay responded to his letter and has requested authorization to access the CRA file on behalf of the PVSC.

This matter is a budget pressure for the PVSC and it was noted that if the PVSC does not receive confirmation in writing from the CRA by the end of May, that a letter be written to Minister Baker (for a grant in-lieu).

It was also noted that should the PVSC receive a negative response that we write to the Federal Minister of Finance and National Revenue.

Moved by K. Simpson, seconded by C. Publicover that a letter be drafted for the Chair for consideration of the Board to send to Minister Baker and Minister Muir requesting the Province reimburse the PVSC for a portion of GST if the CRA position is not reversed. Motion carried.

Municipal Interface Update

B. McNeil advised that the Municipal Interface Committee recommended the same information presently being provided to the units continue for the next 2 years but that the units will be required to update their systems by the end of that period to receive the new information format.

A letter will be sent from PVSC to the units requesting to meet with their system vendors to discuss enhancement requirements. This will be followed with a combined meeting with the vendors to discuss the changes required. K. Gillis will send a letter to the CAO's inviting them to a meeting (various sessions) to provide an update on the system interface issues.

4. New Business

Presentation & Discussion with Doug Rundell, Former CEO of BC Assessment

Doug Rundell, former CEO of BC Assessment was in Halifax to attend the Atlantic Directors of Assessment meeting on April 24th hosted by the PVSC. He was invited to speak at the Board of Directors meeting to provide background information on BC's experience as an assessment agency and their Board governance experience.

Quality Audit

J. Thorburn provided an update on the preparation for an audit plan for the external quality audit work project. It is anticipated the internal audit preparations will be completed this year in order to start an external quality audit process next fiscal year.

5. PVSC Project – Status Report

Head Office Move Update

Renovations at Park Place are going well and everything is on schedule to move out of Torrington by the end of April. Staff orientation for the new space is scheduled for May 2nd. The phone & fax lines have been transferred to the Truro office during this transition period.

6. CEO Report

Staff is actively working on appeals during this period. Summer student positions have been posted for the Provincial Assessment Inspection Program (PAIP) to start mid May.

The International Association of Assessing Officers (IAAO) is looking for a host for the 2013 conference. The PVSC has submitted a letter of proposal in partnership with Destination Halifax.

Meeting Adjourned
Next Meeting – Fri., May 23, 2008