

WEST COAST SHIPBUILDING AND REPAIR FORUM HELD AT BC FERRY SERVICES, 500-1321 BLANSHARD STREET, VICTORIA BC  
10:20 AM, THURSDAY, 1 NOVEMBER 2012

Chair: Capt(N) Don Smith, Commanding Officer FMF CAPE BRETON

Secretary: Mr. Tom Percy, Industrial Engineering Manager FMF CAPE BRETON

Recording Secretary: Ms. Marion Draper, Project Support Clerk FMF CAPE BRETON

Attendees:

Beaver Electrical Machinery Ltd  
Mr. Mark Rapanos - Sales Representative

BMT Fleet Technology  
Mr. Michael Williamson - Vice President

British Columbia Institute of Technology (BCIT)  
Mr. Guy Ellis - Associate Dean, Mechanical Industries School of Energy

British Columbia Ministry of Jobs, Tourism and Innovation  
Ms. Sylvia Selig - Director, Business Analysis British Columbia

Ministry of Education  
Mr. Tim Winkelmanns - Lead for Graduation and E-learning Programs

British Columbia Ferry Services Inc.  
Mr. Mark Collins – Vice President, Engineering (outgoing)  
Mr. Mark Wilson – Vice President, Engineering (incoming)  
Mr. Frank Camaraille - Business Manager, Engineering

Camosun College  
Mr. Eric Sehn - Dean, School of Trades and Technology  
Mr. Chris Edley - Business Development Officer, Applied Research and Innovation  
Dr. Tom Roemer, Vice President Strategic Development

Canadian Welding Bureau Group (CWB Group)  
Mr. Lawrence Parkinson - Marine Advisor

Department of National Defence  
Ms. Margot Cutcher - MARPAC N1  
Mr. Ron Holmes - MARPAC  
Mr. Phil McEvoy - FMF CAPE BRETON, Production Manager  
Mr. Richard Summers - FMF CAPE BRETON, Strategy Manager

Economic Growth Solutions Inc  
Mr. John Murray - Managing Director

Federal Government Dockyards Trades & Labour Council, Esquimalt  
Mr. Des Rogers - National President

Fisheries and Oceans Canada Canadian Coast Guard  
Ms. Louise Anne Granger - Superintendent, Marine Engineering

Esquimalt Graving Dock  
Mr. Daryl Wes -

Industry Canada, Aerospace, Defence and Marine Branch  
Ms. Richelle Boit - Sector Development Officer, Pacific Region

Industrial Marine Training & Applied Research Centre (IMTARC)  
Mr. Alex Rueben - Executive Director

International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers  
Mr. Drew Garcia - Business Representative

JOL Consultants Inc  
Mr. Jack Litzenberger - President

Meridian Marine Industries Inc  
Mr. James McFadden - President  
Mr. Tom Ferns - Superintendent

Parkland Secondary School  
Mr. Mark Fraser - Principal

Surety Association of Canada  
Mr. Robert Sloat - Director, Business Development, Western Canada

University of British Columbia (UBC)  
Dr. Michael Isaacson - Director NAME Program

University of Victoria  
Ms. Tzena Bennallack - Program Coordinator  
Ms. Charmaine Stack - Associate Director

Western Economic Diversification Canada  
Mr. John Briggs - Senior Business Officer

## **DISCUSSION**

### **Call to Order**

1. Capt(N) Smith called the meeting to order at 10:20 AM

### **Opening Remarks and Introductions**

2. Capt(N) Smith welcomed and thanked everyone for attending. He stated that the agenda was packed and reminded us that this is a sharing forum to share ideas and open opportunities. Introductions around the room followed.

### **Meeting Logistics and Acceptance of Agenda**

3. Capt(N) Smith introduced Mark Collins from, BC Ferries, who gave us a safety brief of the venue's facilities.
4. Tom Percy introduced himself as secretary of the Forum and he also stated that presentations would be placed on the website: [www.wcsrf.ca](http://www.wcsrf.ca). The agenda was reviewed and accepted.

### **Previous Minutes**

5. The minutes from May 15, 2012 were accepted.

### **MARPAC Marine Industry Expo Update**

6. Margot Cutchner and Ron Holmes, from DND, presented a slideshow/brief on the MARPAC Marine Industry Expo on November 2012
7. The Marine Industry Expo is geared towards grade 10 students locally and as far North as Chemainus. It is not a recruitment drive, rather it is an information drive to let the students know that they are at their prime opportunity to start forming their academic programming. There are 5000 students from 17 schools planning to attend.
8. This will be a low key event from a media point of view. This is for opening the eyes of the young folk and parents to the vast array of different opportunities that they may not have thought of in their own community. This event is low cost but the value will be great.

### **BC Workforce Table Deliverables & IMTARC Update**

9. Alex Rueben presented the presentation on the BC Workforce Table Deliverables and the IMTARC update.
10. The main message is to use IMTARC to the best advantage, to sustain our sector. The facility will be running in January and will be applying for provincial accreditation so that people

can get funding. The COO is still being finalized. The Governance structure will be a private board of directors, which fits within the RTO board.

### **Shipbuilding and Repair Industry Board Presentation**

11. Between November 2011 and June 2012, the table has met 6 times. They have a mandate and need to move forward on implementation of the workforce table deliverables. The caveat is that this is an in-industry meeting – they can't go public.

12. Drew Garcia stated that marketing needed for locals to stay here in Victoria. Des Rogers noted that trades people are headed to Saskatchewan as they can make double to triple the income.

13. The strategic challenges and the competitiveness and productivity implications outlined a need for applied research & technology transfer.

14. To move forward we need an empowered recognizable body able to make decisions - an empowered focal point.

15. Mark Collins stated that we need to do better. The next meeting is at the end of November, and we need to appeal to the people and the meeting has to have drive for this to work. The board has no funding at moment and is run by volunteers. They are not asking for money, just asking for time to get this board standing. They need to establish validity and credibility, and want to be part of the authority that is driving the solution. There are some constraints as some organizations have limited lobbying abilities.

### **Marine Centre for Trades and Technology Support**

16. Tom Roemer & Chris Edley provided a presentation on the Marine Centre for Trades and Technology Support which is located at Camosun College, Interurban Campus, Victoria BC.

17. Outside of BCIT, they have the largest portfolio in BC, with over 20,000 learners/students. They currently teach 17 trades. Their biggest partnership is with BCIT, although they have partnerships with VIU and NIC as well. They are also trying to create a bi-coastal approach with Nova Scotia Community College (NSCC).

18. The new \$40 million Trade Centre will be created as a Centre of Excellence. For their applied research, they plan on developing relationships with other organizations. Take for example the USAF Drone: UVic will develop the prototype and Camosun will build it.

19. Tom and Chris stated that they need to know from industry what they want to see at this new Trade Centre. The end state is late 2014.

## **Naval Architecture & Marine Engineering Masters Program at UBC**

20. Dr. Michael Isaacson provided a presentation on the new Naval Architecture & Marine Engineering Masters Program at UBC. The university is on an ambitious target to start the first class in Sep 2013.

21. His intent was to introduce the program and to solicit feedback on the development of the program. He welcomes engagement, involvement and collaborations from other institutions.

22. Currently there is demand from current students, and employability of the graduate students is great. Industry is excited about this.

## **Increasing Trades and Technology Training in the K-12 Sector**

23. Tim Winkelmans provided a presentation on Increasing Trades and Technology Training in the K-12 Sector.

24. Capt(N) Smith extended an invitation to Tim to visit FMF to discuss the successes and challenges FMF has had.

25. Tim Winkelmans said that the Ministry of Education is interested to know what the essentials are that all students need to know, and he extended the invitation to meet with a room full of industry and labour to talk and engage in conversation. The Ministry of Education wants to involve the labour industry in the revision and curriculum and graduation program

26. Chris Edley stated that he could offer Camosun as a location, if a venue is needed for this discussion.

## **27. Member's Round Table**

Loiuse Ann Granger (Coast Guard): announced that the Rigid Hull Inflatable Operator Training (RHIOT) School has officially opened in Bamfield.

Sylvia Selig (BC Ministry of Jobs, Tourism and Innovation): stated that Glen Scobie is the provincial lead to the NCTC, and that she is his backup.

Richelle Boit (Industry Canada): asked if there had been any Aboriginal stakeholder engagement, and if there had been any interest. Alex Rueben stated that there has been but it has not taken off as quickly as they hoped. He will try to facilitate connectivity with employment. There is potential from the ship repair and maintenance perspective.

She also asked about the domestic labour pool, and if it was attracting out of province or international workers. Drew Garcia stated the US has a huge labour pool. The regulatory pool, which recognizes their qualifications, is not making it easy.

Richard Summers said some skilled tradespeople successfully used the provincial nominee program.

Capt(N) Smith said that we need to ask Seaspan when they are at the table. We need to make ourselves better informed

Des Rogers said there is a campaign to bring their people back home, as those are the people they want. Put foreign workers in the oil sand and bring our workers home.

Larry Parkinson (CWB Group): stated that the synergy of this forum is fantastic, and encourages it to continue on. Since the last meeting of the WCSBRF May 2012, CWB Group has:

- Obtained agreement from the CSA W178.2 Technical Standards Committee to rewrite the open book Marine Code Endorsement examination to IACS Unified Requirement documents for the Classification of Ships.
- Formally submitted a detailed proposal to the International Association of Classification Societies (IACS) requesting CSA and CWB are acknowledged in IACS Unified Requirement documents for the Classification of Ships.
- Formally submitted detailed proposals to Lloyd's Register (LR), Det Norske Veritas (DnV) and American Bureau of Shipping (ABS) requesting they accept CWB witnessing of test documentation to their rules for approval of welding consumables and welding procedure and welder qualification. In addition, they have been requested to accept CWB welder qualification in accordance with CSA Standards W47.1 and W47.2 and CWB welding procedure qualification to CSA Standard W47.2 as being equivalent to the requirements of their respective Rules.
- Commenced open forum discussions with the shipyards across Canada with a view of establishing a Marine Industry SMART Group. Simply put, although the yards compete with each other, collectively they can work together to achieve competitiveness and retain jobs within Canada.

Bob Sloat (Surety Association of Canada): stated that it was good to see all the offers of collaborations. He would like to see small and medium size shipbuilders at the forum as well. He thanked the forum for all of their guidance.

Capt(N) Smith said that it is incumbent on all of us to continue the dialogue with all that aren't here. We need to continue as a group.

Daryl Wes (Esquimalt Graving Dock): stated that it was great to see the broader industry discussion. He appreciates the opportunity to be here and hear it all.

Capt(N) Smith said that for the next meeting, he wants to carve some time to actually talk about the SMEs. He will promote this forum and try to find out what is missing to engage them in the discussion. We all need to help get the message out.

Jim McFadden (Meridian): stated that since the big ship yard has the money, the small company can't expand, and will potentially lose their people to this.

Capt(N) Smith said that the NSPS has the contracts under certain size vessels, to make sure there's work for the smaller companies as well.

Richard Summers stated that we can not control federal policy, but the point of the forum is "what can we do collectively" to make sure we all survive. This group will do things to help members and share ideas with each other. If you are not here you will not benefit. If here you have a voice.

Michael Isaacson (UBC): stated that he was delighted to be here, and thanked the forum. He asked where we are in terms of the sharing between the 2 Coasts. Capt(N) Smith said that through current programs such as HCM/FELEX, there is forced info sharing. The intent is to continue learning and sharing. However, there is no equivalent body on the east coast. The intent is there to make these programs, which would necessitate that individuals and government work together.

Alex Rueben (IMTARC): stated that we need to be thinking of sector health instead of company health. If we do not work together as a unified sector, we will get taken over by other sectors. We need to pull together and can only do that by showing up and participating together. Over the last 6 years, we have pulled further ahead by working together than by not. We need to get that message to those that are not represented here, for the health of our entire sector.

Drew Garcia (IBEW): stated that he has his labour hat on but is willing to be part of any discussion to help make a stronger identity.

Mark Fraser (Parklands SS): stated that he was excited where we are. He also stated that there are interesting parallels between secondary schools and competitive business

John Murray (Economic Growth Solutions): stated that the reality is that it is typically hard to get other stakeholders to attend a full day meeting, and that it might be easier to them to attend a shorter one.

Richard Summers (FMF): if you tackle trying to attract women into trades too late, nothing happens. The industry needs to get to people earlier to talk to them about trade, which would increase the chances of getting the women involved.

Tzena Bennallack (UVic): was curious about trade retention, and asked if people could switch trades if they decided. Capt(N) Smith answered that progression not lateral, and that training in one trade is not transferable to another trade.

Charmaine Stack (UVic): stated that there was an amazing breadth of discussion at this forum, and it has been very informative.

Guy Ellis (BCIT): said that he is looking forward to collaboration on applied research and looks forward to working with the group for a long time.

Chris Edley (Camosun): stated that he looks forward to continuing the discussion with Tim Winkelmanns and the Ministry of Education. He is hopeful that the SME's meet with the Ministry and ask them for their take on things and bring this back to board. He also thanked the forum.

### **Summary and Next Steps**

28. Tom Percy asked members to feel free to send him feedback on future forums.
29. Capt(N) Smith thanked all for attending and participating, and thanked BC Ferries for hosting this forum. He also reminded members to watch the website in between forums.
30. Next Meeting: 5 March 2013, BCIT (tentative venue)
31. Meeting adjourned at 3:20 pm.

Capt(N) Donald F. Smith  
Chair  
250-363-2315

Marion Draper  
Recording Secretary  
250-363-1013