

OPPORTUNITY KNOCKS & 2020 YEAR END MESSAGE & NEWS

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2020 RECAP

We left 2019 with news of the City of Campbell River rejecting the airport location. The only good that came from this was the \$50,000 grant that the City approved as reimbursement for some of the costs created to comply with their requirements for the airport project.

Covid 19 caused our 2020 AGM to be postponed indefinitely and never took place. The existing directors have continued for this year with a one-year extension of their term. Our 2020 Annual Report was filed as required by the Societies Act showing that no annual general meeting was held.

OPPORTUNITY KNOCKS



As mentioned in the 2019 Year End Message, a private landowner has offered a potential site for our proposed facility. The site is south of Campbell River near the Cranberry Lane turnoff on the Inland Island Highway. As it turned out, the site was too short for a full ¼ mile facility (4000 feet required), so the landowner has offered to acquire additional acreage to accommodate the facility. The cost for him to purchase the additional land is \$300,000 and there is a stipulation that it can only be used as a drag strip. We have discussed that a long-term lease would be in order. In preliminary meetings with the regional district, we have confirmed that the industrial zoning has potential for allowing this use.

URGENT - We need to prove to the landowner that we can raise the funds required to build the facility by bringing back the enthusiasm that was there for the airport location. The additional land needed is of

Vancouver Island MotorSports Association

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no use to the landowner if not for our use, so he will not acquire it if we cannot show the financial strength to build the facility. A “Pledge/Donate Page” is coming soon on the website. The “\$1000 per foot” campaign will be a part of it. Large contributors will receive special recognition and need to be recruited to make this to happen. The cost for the facility will be in the \$3 to \$4 million dollar range, like what we anticipated for the airport project. We need everyone’s help to get this going.

AGM 2021 – Virtual Meeting – Date & Time to be set.

In-person large meetings do not look to be in our near future. VIMSA needs life brought back into it if we really want to have a facility here on the Island. Understandably, membership has fallen off. At the peak we had over 1000 members. It is difficult to rally the troops without an in-person AGM, but we need to do it. Jump back on the bandwagon and get to work to make this facility come about. VIMSA needs your support to continue the quest of having a permanent drag racing facility on the Island.

ELECTION 2021 – President and Secretary – Get Your Election Signs Ready!

Current Executive

President: Jim Johnson – term ends AGM 2021

Vice President: Jim Mantle – term ends AGM 2023

Treasurer: Stan Cook – term ends AGM 2022

Secretary: Tina Pay – term ends AGM 2021

Director at Large: Chris Sharpe – term ends AGM 2022

My term as President ends this year at the AGM and I will not stand for re-election. Beginning March 1, 2021, we will begin a smooth transition of my current duties to our Vice President. I will be available for support if needed.

Ideal President candidates would be persons with strong connections to the Island business community and a passion for motorsports. Succession planning is particularly important for any organization to stay strong. All positions are volunteer (unpaid). The most important qualification is a burning desire to see this project through to the end. Here are a few items on the “to do’ list:

- Fund raising for the construction project
- Improve communication with the membership
- Encourage members participation in promoting the project
- Recruit all Island auto enthusiast clubs etc. to become a united force supporting the project
- Work with the landowner to develop a plan for construction and operation of the project
- Control the release of news maintaining a positive approach
- Create a web-based VIMSA Information Technology system for all aspects of the operation
- ...and I’m sure much more

Submitted by Jim Johnson, President – Vancouver Island MotorSports Association – Email: info@vimsa.ca

Your continued support will make this happen. Please login and renew or send a cheque.

Annual dues still just \$50.00 (0.14 cents per day)

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