

QUESTIONS & ANSWERS

Village of Lytton Community Meeting

September 14, 2023

[Click here](#) to watch the recording of the September 14, 2023, Village of Lytton Community Meeting. Responses to questions answered during the meeting are summarized below.

INTERIOR HEALTH

Do you have any updates on a pharmacy being opened in Lytton?

There is planning underway and we are working with the Ministry and Lytton First Nation to see what options are available to set up a pharmacy.

Answered during the Community Meeting ([16:26](#))

Is the hospital still slated for the previous location on Main Street?

Yes, that is the plan.

Answered during the Community Meeting ([17:28](#))

LILLOOET/LYTTON RCMP

Sgt Clay what is the phone # for the Lytton detachment?

250-455-2225.

Answered during the Community Meeting ([18:10](#))

Sgt. Clay, is the home that was purchased on Loring Way renovated and ready for a member to move in?

The interior renovation on the house is complete. The exterior renovations are still underway, and the yard renovations are expected to be complete in the next 4-6 weeks.

Answered during the Community Meeting ([18:26](#))

ARCHAEOLOGY BRANCH

Given the Province currently holds and regulates the Heritage Inspection Permit (HIP), what is the plan to address the expired right of entry (ROE) and the lack of individual property permissions?

The Archaeology Branch wasn't involved in the development of the ROE – look to Emergency Management and Climate Readiness (EMCR) or the Village of Lytton to address this. Part of the purpose of the Schedule A is to indicate your participation in the permit.

Answered during the Community Meeting (32:25)

Does the current HIP which covers the entire Village as a single project remain valid?

Both permits (Investigation and Alteration Permit) are open until December 31, 2023. Heritage Conservation Act (HCA) permits can be amended and extended. The HCA permit was established to support the community rebuild of Lytton, including but not limited to remediation.

Answered during the Community Meeting (32:58)

Would transitioning from the current Heritage Inspection Permit to site specific permits similar to the remediation process be beneficial in addressing concerns such as ancestral remains, and would this transition also enable property owners without archaeological sites to proceed with their rebuilding efforts?

Management Decision letters indicate the risk development will impact protected sites and outline private property owner's next steps.

Property owners whose properties were assessed to have a low risk of archaeological sites on their property do not require HCA permits for development – provided new archaeological deposits are not found.

The existing alteration permit allows residents to work with any qualified, eligible archaeologist.

Properties can be backfilled if the remediation assessment is complete.

It is preferable to do as much work under the existing permits to streamline administration and costs. The existing permits were written to support individual property owners and authorize various activities.

Answered during the Community Meeting (33:58)

How is the Province managing contractors like AEW in relation to the permit?

The Village of Lytton administers the contract with AEW. The Archaeology Branch ensures that any archaeological consultant working under this permit complies with the permit terms and conditions. The Branch reviews the reports submitted by archaeologists and based on their results and recommendations, provides management direction to the Village.

Please refer to the PowerPoint presentation for a summary of roles and responsibilities

Answered during the Community Meeting (36:23)

Can you provide estimated timelines for each of the aspects of your process outlines in this chart?

No, it is dependent on several variables, including what's been done on the property, whether archaeological sites have been found, and/or what development is proposed. The Village of Lytton may have additional information as they oversee various contracts.

Without knowing the specific details of the property, it is challenging to provide a detailed timeline. This is because there are variables that can impact the process, such as whether there is already an archaeological site on the property and what type of development is planned (e.g., will construction activities go below the imported fill and to what depth).

Answered during the Community Meeting (37:20)

For residents wanting to use another archeologist other than AEW, would the Arch Branch be willing to share a list of alternate archeologists that are willing to come to Lytton, it seems there is a lot of difficulty getting other firms to work here for some reason?

The BC Association of Professional Archaeologists (BCAPA) maintains a list of archaeologists that residents can access. The Archaeology Branch cannot recommend archaeologists.

Please ensure your archaeologist is qualified and eligible to work under this permit; they must be able to hold HCA permits within the Interior Plateau culture area. These criteria are outlined in the management direction letter.

Answered during the Community Meeting (39:28)

You talked about residents hiring an archaeologist. Can you explain when residents would need to do this?

It depends on what is known about your property and your proposed development. Hiring an archaeologist may not be necessary if there is no archaeological site on your property. If you do need an archaeologist, the advice we're providing to the Village of Lytton for residents outlines which stages require an archaeologist and which activities may not.

The Village of Lytton is responsible to advise residents as to what is covered under the funding provided to date, and what costs will be borne by residents.

Answered during the Community Meeting (40:47)

At what point will residents rebuilding be given the 'sign off' to proceed without arch branch involvement?

It depends on what work has been done on the property and what has been found to date. In the letters being sent to the Village of Lytton from the Archaeology Branch, some residents have been advised that there's no archaeological site on their property or that there's a low risk of an archaeological site.

If there is no archaeological site on your property, you do not have responsibilities under the HCA. If there is a site, activities must comply with the terms and conditions of an HCA permit.

Answered during the Community Meeting (41:56)

Will property owners find out what was found on their properties?

Not on a property-specific basis. We're working with the Nlaka'pamux Nation and other descendent Nations to share the results of what's been found, but it will probably be at a Village level.

Answered during the Community Meeting (42:33)

Have all the properties had an assessment?

No. We cannot provide specific information, but sediment screening on the properties where remediation has taken place is not complete. Remediation wasn't undertaken or overseen by archaeologists on every property. Shovel testing has occurred on some properties.

Answered during the Community Meeting (43:03)

So if I dig below the backfill I require an archaeologist?

It depends on what is known about your specific property, such as if we know there's an archaeological site under the imported fill and if the archaeological site interferes with your development. This information is available to residents in the Management Decision letter provided to the Village.

Answered during the Community Meeting (44:06)

How is it that AEW receives provincial funding for their scope of work- that is directed "and overseen" by the KHC? and that the KHC is an arm of the NNTC - which is financially affiliated with AEW? Isn't that a clear conflict of interest?

AEW is one of many archaeological firms owned by Indigenous Governments within BC. AEW still needs to comply with the terms and conditions of the permit.

The Kumsheen Heritage Committee (KHC) advises and reviews the work plan developed by AEW, but the Archaeology Branch is the authority that approves the work plan and establishes the archaeological methods that AEW or any other archaeological firm must adhere to.

AEW was hired by the Village of Lytton. They are a local archaeological firm.

Answered during the Community Meeting (45:54)

When the findings are provided to the Village, would they be required to keep it confidential, or can they share it with residents?

The Archaeology Branch has advised the Village on what information is able to be shared with residents. The Village will share property-specific information to help the owner determine their development plans and what activities will require HCA permitting.

Answered during the Community Meeting (49:34)

We've applied for a building permit and are trying to get a work plan, which we've been told is necessary to have. We received a contract from AEW with a list of fees that totaled just under \$24,000 for 10 days of work (\$1686 / per day for two monitors plus additional fees). If AEW is already being paid by the Province, why are homeowners required to pay AEW for this work?

The Village was working with partners at the Province to provide funding for recovery and to prepare for rebuild. This included debris removal, soil remediation and the archaeological testing required as part of that monitoring. The cost of additional archaeological work for homeowners to rebuild on their property was to be covered by their insurance or at the expense of the homeowner.

At the start of this process, the Village was unaware that further monitoring would be required on individual lots. The Village will be engaging in discussions with the Province to seek funding for this work.

Answered during the Community Meeting (51:02)

What happens to personal items (i.e., jewellery or tools) that may be found on a person's property?

We are unaware of any personal items being recovered. During the debris removal process, the top level of material and material that was likely contaminated by the fire was taken for disposal and not reviewed for any personal items.

Answered during the Community Meeting (1:01:18)

Is the permit for archeology under the ROE with residents and VOL?

The Archaeology Branch wasn't involved in the development of the ROE – look to Emergency Management and Climate Readiness (EMCR) or the Village of Lytton to address this. Part of the purpose of the Schedule A is to indicate your participation in the permit.

Answered during the Community Meeting (1:02:30)

Residents rebuilding have not signed a schedule A. At what point do we receive this schedule?

The Archaeology Branch is working with Village staff to distribute this information to residents.

Answered during the Community Meeting (1:04:04)

I have a resident who is concerned that the level of "clean-up" to their businesses was not completed adequately. my understanding being that only \$30K was allocated by Red Cross for those outside VOL. Who would I refer this to/advocate to have this issue addressed?

More information is required to understand who the point of contact may be. Parliamentary Secretary Russell to follow up with the individual who asked the question.

Answered during the Community Meeting (1:05:26)

Can you explain more what the two permits mean?

There are two permits that support the rebuild of Lytton. The Investigation Permit supports the archaeological methods (i.e., subsurface testing, artifact collection, identifying and assessing the archaeological site). The Alteration Permit allows alterations to occur, including importing fill on top of the site.

Answered during the Community Meeting (1:20:51)

I hear a lot from property owners in Lytton and residents around the area that they don't understand why a place like Monte Lake or other places in the province that have lost their homes can start rebuilding and don't have to go through the same process. Can you explain?

Lytton's recovery received provincial resourcing and wide-spread remediation. As a result, activities subject to HCA were identified early in the process, and work has had to comply with provincial legislation.

Those other areas would have undergone the same risk assessment to determine if there is a known site in the area or a risk of an archaeological site. The Village of Lytton is in a known site with lots of cultural material, which is why this archaeological process is required.

Answered during the Community Meeting (1:22:13)

Is the KHC a new process that was developed for Lytton or is it something that is happening in other areas of the province as well?

The KHC is somewhat unique for Lytton. A consultation period of 30 or more days is typically required when a permit is issued or when there are amendments. The KHC was established to streamline and expedite this process.

Answered during the Community Meeting (1:25:11)

I believe I was told the KHC has to approve the work plans for anyone rebuilding. Is that correct?

The Archaeology Branch is seeks endorsement through the KHC. The Archaeology Branch makes decisions regarding the HCA. The Village makes decisions regarding municipal permitting.

Answered during the Community Meeting (1:31:15)

Is there a “Blue Book” value or a standard industry rate for archaeological monitoring?

There is no standard industry rate for archaeological fees. The Archaeology Branch does not regulate or oversee charge out rates.

Answered during the Community Meeting (1:34:49)

It was my understanding that when a homeowner engaged AEW and they were going to be monitoring your property, they would not be on your property until they were required and in the mea time they would be working for the Village. This seems like double dipping. Is this accurate?

The Village was not aware of this happening and will look into this.

Answered during the Community Meeting (1:42:03)

BACKFILL UPDATE

When will the dozens of piles of dirt on the east side of Main up 6th and along Station be removed? They are blocking access to our property from 6th Street.

The material requires a sifting process, and the Village does not have funding to undertake this work. The Village is working with the Archaeology Branch and Emergency Management to determine the next steps for this material.

Answered during the Community Meeting (1:15:14)

So, all of the property have had water and sewer pipes/services covered and will have to be dug up again, will this require a monitor at the costs that Lilliane G mentioned?

Many of the water and sewer lines were not dug out during the remediation process. In order to hook these up again, additional excavation will be required, and archaeology may need to be involved. The Village will be determining how to address this.

Answered during the Community Meeting (1:18:31)

For the residents in the zones that haven't been backfilled yet and they have a MDL telling them they can proceed with cap and fill, can they do so without waiting on the Village or approaching the KHC?

To carry out any work, it is mandatory to have an archaeological work plan in place unless you have been instructed that the work poses minimal or no threat to an archaeological site. Even if someone decides to proceed with backfilling without informing the Village, they would still need an observer present.

Answered during the Community Meeting (1:39:07)

SPEAKER CONTACT INFORMATION

Interior Health

- Kathy Doull – kathy.doull@interiorhealth.ca

Lillooet/Lytton RCMP

- Sgt. Scott Clay – Scott.clay@rcmp-grc.gc.ca

Archaeology Branch

- LyttonHCA@gov.bc.ca (This is the preferred contact address as it is regularly monitored and will have the best response.)
- Paula Thorogood – Paula.Thorogood@gov.bc.ca
- Ted White – Ted.White@gov.bc.ca

Recovery Manager

- Mike Blaschuk – recoverymanager@lytton.ca

Parliamentary Secretary Russell

- roly.russell.MLA@leg.bc.ca