



SUNSHINE COAST REGIONAL DISTRICT



REGULAR BOARD MEETING TO BE HELD
IN THE BOARDROOM OF THE SUNSHINE COAST
REGIONAL DISTRICT OFFICES AT 1975 FIELD ROAD, SECHELT, B.C.

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 8, 2024

AGENDA

CALL TO ORDER 1:00 p.m.

AGENDA

1. Adoption of agenda

MINUTES

2. Regular Board meeting minutes of January 25, 2024 Annex A
pp 3 - 15

BUSINESS ARISING FROM MINUTES AND UNFINISHED BUSINESS

PRESENTATIONS AND DELEGATIONS

3. Sunshine Coast Chamber of Commerce Annex B
pp 16 - 17
Regarding: Introduction to the New Sunshine Coast Chamber
of Commerce

REPORTS

4. Committee of the Whole recommendation Nos. 1 - 9 of January 25, 2024 Annex C
pp 18 - 21
5. Finance Committee – Round 2 Budget recommendations of February 5, 2024 *To Come Forward*
6. Water Systems Modelling Engineering Services Contract Amendment – *Assistant Manager, Utility Engineering; Utilities Business Coordinator* Annex D
pp 22 - 24
(Voting – All Directors – weighted vote: A-2, B-2, D-2, E-2, F-2, Sechelt -6, Gibsons-3, sNGD-1)
7. GACC Chiller Replacement Pre-Order Award Report - *Manager, Facility Services* *To Come Forward*
(Voting – All Directors – weighted vote: A-2, B-2, D-2, E-2, F-2, Sechelt -6, Gibsons-3, sNGD-1)

- | | | |
|----|---|-----------------------|
| 8. | Request for Exemption from SCRD Noise Control Bylaw No. 597 for Alberg Productions Inc. – <i>Acting Deputy Corporate Officer</i>
(Voting – All Directors – weighted vote: A-2, B-2, D-2, E-2, F-2, Sechelt -6, Gibsons-3, sNGD-1) | Annex E
pp 25 - 29 |
|----|---|-----------------------|

COMMUNICATIONS

- | | | |
|----|--|-----------------------|
| 9. | <u>Vanessa Craig, Chair, Regional District of Nanaimo dated January 19, 2024</u>
Regarding Legislative Reform Initiative Update | Annex F
pp 30 - 31 |
|----|--|-----------------------|

NOTICE OF MOTION

BYLAWS

DIRECTORS' REPORTS

NEW BUSINESS

IN CAMERA

THAT the public be excluded from attendance at the meeting in accordance with Section 90 (1) (a) of the *Community Charter* – “personal information about an identifiable individual who holds or is being considered for a position. [...]”

ADJOURNMENT



SUNSHINE COAST REGIONAL DISTRICT

JANUARY 25, 2024

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE REGULAR BOARD OF THE SUNSHINE COAST REGIONAL DISTRICT HELD IN THE BOARDROOM AT 1975 FIELD ROAD, SECHULT, B.C.

PRESENT:	Chair	Electoral Area A	L. Lee
	Directors	Electoral Area B	J. Gabias
		Electoral Area D	K. Backs
		Electoral Area E	D. McMahon
		Electoral Area F	K. Stamford
		District of Sechelt	A. Toth
		District of Sechelt	D. Inkster (in part)
		Town of Gibsons	S. White
ALSO PRESENT:	Chief Administrative Officer		D. McKinley
	Corporate Officer		S. Reid
	General Manager, Corporate Services		T. Perreault
	General Manager, Planning and Development		I. Hall
	General Manager, Community Services		S. Gagnon
	General Manager, Infrastructure Services		R. Rosenboom
	Chief Building Official		B. Kennet (in part)
	Assistant Manager, Capital Projects		J. Waldorf (in part)
	Executive Coordinator		C. Armitage
	Acting Deputy Corporate Officer/Recorder		K. Wiebe
	Media		0
	Public		10

**Directors, staff, and other attendees present for the meeting may have participated by means of electronic or other communication facilities.*

CALL TO ORDER 1:03 p.m.

AGENDA **It was moved and seconded**

014/24 THAT the agenda for the meeting be adopted as presented.

CARRIED

MINUTES

Minutes **It was moved and seconded**

015/24 THAT the Special Board meeting minutes of January 8, 2024 be adopted.

CARRIED

Minutes **It was moved and seconded**

016/24 THAT the Board meeting minutes of January 11, 2024 be adopted.

CARRIED

PRESENTATIONS AND DELEGATIONS

Ineke Kalwig, Ph.D., P.Eng., Project Manager, Senior Hydrogeological Engineer, Kalwij Water Dynamics Inc., presented the Water Supply Plan Feasibility Study Long-Term Groundwater Supply Sources – Groundwater Investigation Phase 5.

Groundwater
Investigation **It was moved and seconded**

017/24 THAT the presentation regarding Groundwater Investigation Phase 5 be received for information;

CARRIED

Colin Stansfield, Executive Director, and John Sutherland, Director, Sunshine Coast Regional Economic Development Organization, presented the SCREDO 2024 Strategic Plan.

SCREDO **It was moved and seconded**

018/24 THAT the presentation regarding SCREDO 2024 Strategic Plan be received for information;

CARRIED

REPORTS

COW **It was moved and seconded**

019/24 THAT Committee of the Whole recommendation Nos. 1 and 3 - 12 of January 11, 2024 be received, adopted and acted upon as follows:

Recommendation No. 1 *Water System Fire Flow Update*

THAT the report titled Water System Fire Flow Update be received for information;

AND THAT a Budget Proposal be brought forward to the 2024 Round 2 Budget deliberations related to next steps on Fire Flow Requirements.

Recommendation No. 3 *Langdale Wellfield Development - Project Update (Groundwater Investigation Round 2 - Phase 3)*

THAT the presentation materials from Kalwij Water Dynamics Inc. be received for information

019/24 cont.

Recommendation No. 4 *Results Groundwater Investigation Phase 3 - Round 2 – Langdale Wellfield Development*

THAT the report titled Results Groundwater Investigation Phase 3 - Round 2 – Langdale Wellfield Development be received for information; AND THAT the SCRDP proceed with the final design and engineering to support construction of the Langdale Wellfield.

Recommendation No. 5 *Results Groundwater Investigation Phase 3 - Round 2 – Langdale Wellfield Development*

THAT the 2024 Budget Proposal for the Langdale Wellfield Development be amended to reflect the revised project costs and proposed funding sources.

Recommendation No. 6 *Results Groundwater Investigation Phase 3 - Round 2 – Langdale Wellfield Development*

THAT staff provide a report as part of the 2024 Round 2 deliberations on the financial and electoral process implications of long-term borrowing in support of the construction phase of the Langdale Wellfield Development project.

Recommendation No. 7 *2023 Drought Response Plan Summary*

THAT the report titled 2023 Drought Response Plan Summary be received for information.

Recommendation No. 8 *Association of Vancouver Island and Coastal Communities (AVICC) Resolutions*

THAT the report titled Association of Vancouver Island and Coastal Communities (AVICC) Resolutions be received for information;

AND THAT the draft AVICC resolutions No. 1 Ports Prioritization and Maintenance, and No. 5 Free Transit for Students, be adopted as amended as follows:

1. Ports Prioritization and Maintenance

WHEREAS public wharves and docks are critical transportation links for people, supplies, and emergency services in coastal communities, and there is a lack of coordinated provincial and federal priority setting and funding to support and maintain critical connectivity along BC's 25,000 kilometres of coastline;

AND WHEREAS the federal government divested government wharves, and the responsibility for maintenance and management of public ports has fallen entirely on local taxpayers and nonprofit groups, and the provincial government does not have a ministry responsible for dealing with for the complex issues involving public ports, especially in unincorporated areas;

019/24 cont.

AND WHEREAS the Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure is responsible for maintaining the roads leading to public ports and continues to approve subdivision applications for water-only access residential developments; and evolving transportation technology and climate change requires a complete reconsideration of the design of small ports to meet future needs:

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED *that the province, and the federal government, review BC's marine network as a whole and identify ports that are vulnerable to long-term funding concerns as well as extreme weather events for more sustained public support* to maintain critical connectivity along BC's 25,000 kilometers of coastline to meet the long term economic, social, and emergency needs of coastal residents.

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the province funds the creation of engineering best practices for building ports to meet future transportation needs and climate resilience and provide financial support for the *primary access ports*.

5. Free Transit for Students

WHEREAS the BC Government's fare-free transit program for youth aged 12 and under grade 6 saves families money while offering youth low-carbon transportation that helps the province and municipalities reach carbon neutrality targets;

AND WHEREAS expanding eligibility to those in grade 12 and under would *promote equitable access to transit despite economic disparity amongst youth and families in BC*:

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that UBCM request the province to expand the fare free transit program for youth in grade 12 and under.

AND THAT draft AVICC resolution No. 3 Funding for Rural Road Maintenance, be adopted as presented as follows:

3. Funding for Rural Road Maintenance

WHEREAS secondary roads in unincorporated areas of BC are typically maintained on a break/fix basis despite deteriorating conditions and increasing traffic;

AND WHEREAS there is no publicly available plan for the upgrade and replacement of rural roads, culverts, and bridges;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the province direct and fund the Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure to establish a capital asset management plan for secondary road networks across the province.

AND FURTHER THAT draft AVICC resolution No. 2 Engagement with Local Governments with Respect to Road Network Planning, and resolution No. 4 Improved Road Design for Vulnerable Road Users, be brought forward to the January 25, 2024 Board meeting for future consideration and amendment.

019/24 cont.

Recommendation No. 9 *Community Emergency Preparedness Fund Grant Application – Emergency Support Services (ESS) Equipment and Training – Program Improvements*

THAT the report titled Community Emergency Preparedness Fund Grant Application – Emergency Support Services (ESS) Equipment and Training – Program Improvements be received for information;

AND THAT the grant application of up to \$30,000 for the training, ESS equipment, and program improvements be submitted to the Union of British Columbia Municipalities on behalf of the Sunshine Coast Regional District;

AND FURTHER THAT the Sunshine Coast Regional District supports the current proposed activities identified in the application and is willing to provide overall grant management.

Recommendation No. 10 *Request for Proposal 2361312 Recreation Management Software - Contract Award*

THAT the report titled Request for Proposal 2361312 Recreation Management Software - Contract Award be received for information;

AND THAT subject to the approval of the 2024 Budget Proposal titled “Recreation Software Change Implementation” a contract to provide recreation management software be awarded to Perfect Mind Inc dba Xplor Recreation for the amount up to \$120,000.00 (excluding GST);

AND FURTHER THAT the delegated authorities be authorized to execute the contract.

Recommendation No. 11 *Sunshine Coast Regional District/School District No. 46 Joint Use Steering Committee Minutes of September 7, 2023*

THAT the Sunshine Coast Regional District/School District No. 46 Joint Use Steering Committee minutes of September 7, 2023, be received for information.

Recommendation No. 12 *Solid Waste Management Plan Public and Technical Advisory Committee (PTAC) Minutes – November 21, 2023*

THAT the Solid Waste Management Plan Public and Technical Advisory Committee (PTAC) minutes of November 21, 2023, be received for information.

CARRIED

EAS

It was moved and seconded

020/24

THAT the Electoral Area Services Committee recommendation Nos. 1 - 4 of January 18, 2024 be received, adopted and acted upon as follows:

020/24 cont.

Recommendation No. 1 *Zoning Amendment Bylaw No. 722.6 (268 Stella Maris Road)*

THAT the report titled Zoning Amendment Bylaw No. 722.6 (268 Stella Maris Road) – Consideration of Third Reading be received for information;

AND THAT Zoning Amendment Bylaw No. 722.6 be forwarded to the Board for Third Reading;

AND FURTHER THAT prior to adoption of Zoning Amendment Bylaw No. 722.6, the following conditions be met:

- Approval by the Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure pursuant to Section 52 of the Transportation Act;
- Payment of Affordable Housing Contribution valued at \$120,000 be secured by transfer of funds, or registration of a Land Title Act Section 219 covenant that requires the payment of the Affordable Housing Contribution prior to consideration of subdivision.

Recommendation No. 2 *Development Variance Permit DVP00090 (1504 Tideview Road)*

THAT the report titled Development Variance Permit DVP00090 (1504 Tideview Road) - Electoral Area F be received for information;

AND THAT consideration of Development Variance Permit DVP00090 (1504 Tideview Road) be deferred to a future Electoral Area Services Committee meeting once more information is received from the Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure regarding the setback permit.

Recommendation No. 3 *Development Variance Permit DVP00095 (4141 Francis Peninsula Road)*

THAT the report titled Development Variance Permit DVP00095 (4141 Francis Peninsula Road) - Electoral Area A be received for information;

AND THAT consideration of Development Variance Permit DVP00095 (4141 Francis Peninsula Road) be deferred for decision until the applicant has resolved the matters identified by the Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure regarding the setback permit;

AND FURTHER THAT Development Variance Permit DVP00095 (4141 Francis Peninsula Road) be referred to the Electoral Area A Advisory Planning Commission and the comments be brought back to a future Electoral Area Services Committee for consideration.

020/24 cont. **Recommendation No. 4** *Ports Monitors Committee Meeting Notes of December 11, 2023*

THAT the Ports Monitors (POMO) Committee meeting notes of December 11, 2023 be received for information.

CARRIED

AVICC Resolutions **It was moved and seconded**

021/24 THAT the report titled 2024 Resolutions to AVICC be received for information;

AND THAT the following proposed resolutions be adopted and forwarded for consideration at the 2024 AVICC Annual General Meeting and Convention:

Engagement with Local Governments with Respect to Road Network Planning

WHEREAS the Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure lacks the funding, staffing and mandate to plan overall road networks in unincorporated areas and to proactively deal with transportation and development planning issues in the "fringe" interface areas of municipalities and regional districts;

AND WHEREAS problems with runoff from roads and development are increasingly severe across the province, and are significantly impacted by the Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure decisions around subdivision approvals and road infrastructure;

AND WHEREAS the Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure does not proactively engage with local governments on future planning and maintenance of numbered routes that run through municipalities and often through downtown cores:

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the province direct and fund the Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure to engage with local governments on overall road network planning and subdivision planning in order to improve decision-making to reduce cumulative negative impacts on communities.

Improved Road Design for Vulnerable Road Users

WHEREAS the Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure road design standards prioritize the efficient movement of motor vehicles over the safety of vulnerable road users, including pedestrians, transit users, and cyclists;

AND WHEREAS narrow road rights-of-way and topographic challenges in rural areas often make it impossible for active transportation infrastructure to be built to the Ministry of

021/24 cont. Transportation and Infrastructure's Active Transportation Design Guide of separated paths along road corridors;

AND WHEREAS the Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure will not approve, fund, or maintain any road improvements that don't meet their Active Transportation Design Guide:

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the province instruct the Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure to prioritize the safety of vulnerable road users in their road design standards.

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure recognize the practical challenges of active transportation in rural areas and approve, fund and maintain minor road improvements that increase safety for vulnerable road users, such as paved shoulders and crosswalks.

CARRIED

Notice on Title **It was moved and seconded**

022/24 THAT the report titled Placement of Notice on Title be received for information;

AND THAT the Corporate Officer be authorized to file a Notice at the Land Title Office stating that a resolution has been made by the Sunshine Coast Regional District Board under Section 57 of the *Community Charter* against the land title of Lot 6, Block 8, District Lot 1326, Plan VAP7274, PID 010-678-832, Folio 746.02762.000.

CARRIED

Notice on Title **It was moved and seconded**

023/25 THAT the Corporate Officer be authorized to file a Notice at the Land Title Office stating that a resolution has been made by the Sunshine Coast Regional District Board under Section 57 of the *Community Charter* against the land title of Lot 41, District Lot 3923, Plan LMP31125, PID 023-630-094, Folio 746.06165.041.

CARRIED

NOTICE OF MOTION

Climate Emergency
Declaration **It was moved and seconded**

024/24 THAT the following Notice of Motion regarding Climate Emergency Declaration be referred to the Committee of the Whole meeting scheduled for February 8, 2024:

024/24 cont.

WHEREAS, as per section 185 (d) of the *Local Government Act*, the purposes of a Regional District include “fostering the current and future economic, social and environmental well-being of its community”;

AND WHEREAS each decade since the 1980s has been warmer than the previous one, with 2023 deemed the hottest year on record, showing a clear trajectory of increase in global warming;

AND WHEREAS the impacts of a warming climate on the Sunshine Coast -- including drought, sea level rise, wildfire risk, severe storms and extreme precipitation -- are significant and increasing in frequency, and affect the financial, physical and mental health of our residents;

AND WHEREAS the March 2023 report from the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) finds that it is necessary to limit global warming to 1.5 degrees Celsius to secure a livable future for all, and that, to do so, GHG emissions need to be cut by 43% below 2019 levels by 2030, 60% below 2019 levels by 2035, and reach a zero CO2 emissions target by 2050;

AND WHEREAS urgent, meaningful and just climate action is needed from all levels of government in order to foster a healthy, equitable and livable future for current residents and the next seven generations;

AND WHEREAS the SCRD’s draft Community Climate Action Plan (CCAP) was presented to the Board in 2023 but has yet to be adopted;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED:

THAT the Sunshine Coast Regional District officially declare a climate emergency for the purpose of formalizing and deepening our commitment to protecting our community, ecosystems and economy from global warming;

AND THAT the board continue to develop policy and demonstrate leadership that directs meaningful action on this Climate Emergency Declaration;

AND THAT staff bring the Community Climate Action Plan back for review and consideration of adoption at a future Special Board Meeting, and provide the board with a list of actions that can be started in 2024;

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT this Special Meeting be scheduled no later than end of Q2 2024.

CARRIED

BYLAWS

Security Issuing
Bylaw

It was moved and seconded

025/24

THAT the report titled District of Sechelt Borrowing be received for information;

AND THAT the Board consent to the long-term borrowing of \$3,000,000 over a 20-year term for the District of Sechelt;

AND FURTHER THAT *Sunshine Coast Regional District Security Issuing Bylaw No. 763, 2024* be given three readings and be adopted.

CARRIED

Bylaw 763

It was moved and seconded

026/24

THAT *Sunshine Coast Regional District Security Issuing Bylaw No. 763, 2024* be read a first time.

CARRIED

Bylaw 763

It was moved and seconded

027/24

THAT *Sunshine Coast Regional District Security Issuing Bylaw No. 763, 2024* be read a second time.

CARRIED

Bylaw 763

It was moved and seconded

028/24

THAT *Sunshine Coast Regional District Security Issuing Bylaw No. 763, 2024* be read a third time.

CARRIED

Bylaw 763

It was moved and seconded

029/24

THAT *Sunshine Coast Regional District Security Issuing Bylaw No. 763, 2024* be adopted.

CARRIED

DIRECTORS REPORTS

The Directors provided a verbal update regarding their activities.

IN CAMERA

The Board moved In Camera at 2:31 p.m.

IN CAMERA It was moved and seconded

030/24 THAT the public be excluded from attendance at the meeting in accordance with Section 90 (1) of the *Community Charter* – “personal information about an identifiable individual who holds or is being considered for a position as an officer ...”.

CARRIED

The Board recessed at 2:31 p.m. and reconvened at 2:37 p.m.

The Board moved out of In Camera at 3:01 p.m.

RELEASE OF ITEMS FROM IN CAMERA**Jensen Road It was moved and seconded**

031/24 THAT 2022 planning application fees be levied for a proposed development at 1691 Jensen Road in conjunction with the execution of a release of claims against the Sunshine Coast Regional District.

CARRIED

POMO It was moved and seconded

032/24 THAT John Richardson be re-appointed as the Ports Monitor Committee representative for the Keats Landing dock for a two-year term;

AND THAT Bruce Pollock be re-appointed as the Ports Monitor Committee representative for the Gambier Harbour dock for a two-year term;

AND FURTHER THAT staff continue with recruitment for Ports Monitor Committee representatives for Vaucroft, Halfmoon Bay and West Bay docks.

CARRIED

**2024 APC
Appointments****It was moved and seconded**

033/24 THAT APC member appointments for Electoral Area A - Egmont/Pender Harbour, Area B - Halfmoon Bay, Area D – Roberts Creek and Area E - Elphinstone be appointed as follows:

033/24 cont.

Electoral Area	Applicant	Term Length (years)
Area A	Littlejohn, Gordon	2
Area A	McEachern, Catherine	2
Area A	McOuat Farrer, Jane	2
Area A	Skelley, Alan	2
Area A	Burega, Yovhan	2
Area B	Bolding, Barbara	1
Area B	Baziuk, Robert	2
Area B	Grames, Alda	2
Area B	Lenz, Eleanor	2
Area B	Huska, Nicole	2
Area D	Hennessy, Meaghan	2
Area D	Allegretti, John	2
Area D	Budd, James	2
Area D	Tarneaud, Caroline	2
Area D	Hollander, Francesca	1
Area D	Glew, Chris	1
Area D	Staats, Lesley-Anne	2
Area E	Arndt, Devin	1
Area E	Degan, Mary	2
Area E	Hermann, Arne	2
Area E	Macdonald, Laura	2
Area E	Sanderson, Michael	2

AND THAT APC selection for Area F be held in abeyance until a sufficient number of candidates, to meet the minimum required to establish an APC, is brought forward;

AND FURTHER THAT letters of appreciation be sent to outgoing members.

CARRIED

ADJOURNMENT

034/24

THAT the Regular Board meeting be adjourned.

CARRIED

The meeting adjourned at 3:02 p.m.

Certified correct

Corporate Officer

Confirmed this _____ day of _____

Chair

Who we are

The Sunshine Coast Chamber of Commerce is a new organization formed in the Fall of 2023 and formally registered January 1, 2024. This is the outcome of a successful merger endorsed unanimously by the membership of three former Chambers in Gibsons, Sechelt and Pender Harbour.

Stronger as One

The business sector in all local communities will benefit from a larger and stronger Chamber of Commerce serving the entire Sunshine Coast of British Columbia.

Our Purpose:

- is to promote and protect the interests of Sunshine Coast Chamber of Commerce businesses;
- advocate on behalf of businesses at the local, regional, and national levels;
- provide a platform for businesses to connect and network with each other;
- offer educational support and resources to our members.

Government Liaison

All levels of local government will be invited to appoint ex-officio liaison officials
Names to be determined

Our Board

Ron Badley
Doug Martenson
Gaetan Royer

Our Staff

Janice Iverson – Merger and Transition Facilitator
Ed Pednault – Transition Executive Director

A Strong Board

Continuity and carefully orchestrated transition

The Sunshine Coast Merger Task Force was appointed by the Boards of the three legacy Chambers. The Task Force became an interim Chamber Board, initially with one member of each legacy Chamber. The main goal of this model was to achieve continuity and a smooth transition.

A merger facilitator, expert in governance and community investment, was retained by the Task Force. The facilitator will continue to provide governance support and advice to the Interim Board through the first quarter of 2024.

A new Board, representative of the entire region, will be recruited by the Task Force and duly elected by the membership at the Chamber's first AGM to be held approximately 3 months, but no longer than 6 months, after amalgamation.

The newly elected Board will then review and adopt a new Strategic Plan that will incorporate transition activities yet to be completed and set new objectives.

Accomplishments

We champion the collective voice of our members to create an environment in which Sunshine Coast businesses prosper, families thrive and communities flourish.

We advocate for a business environment that is inclusive, innovative and competitive. We believe that if businesses succeed, they can help support families and grow communities in a sustainable way.

Contact us

For more information, contact (to be determined)
www.sunshinecoastchamber.ca

Draft Strategic Plan 2024 – 2026

At the end of an open and transparent process, marked by frequent updates and opportunities to provide their input, members of three existing Chambers of Commerce, Gibsons, Sechelt and Pender Harbour, voted unanimously in support of dissolving existing chambers and forming a single Sunshine Coast Chamber of Commerce.

It is in this spirit of collaboration that the interim Board of the new Chamber created this 2-year, transition-focused Strategic Plan

*Stronger
as One*

SUNSHINE COAST
CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

Honour the
past & build a
better future
on the Coast!

facebook.com/

[Linkedin.com/](https://www.linkedin.com/company/sunshine-coast-chamber-of-commerce)

twitter & Instagram:

Draft Strategic Plan 2024 – 2026

Our Chamber provides outstanding services to its members, actively listens to its memberships and fosters partnerships with other business groups.

Our Chamber leverages the strength of its membership to influence local policies that support entrepreneurship and economic prosperity.

We help our members sustain a thriving and diversified coastal economy.

Our Vision for 2025 – 2026

- We represent Coastal communities.
- Local governments respect and meaningfully engage in Chamber activities.
- The Coast is “open for business”.
- Visionary Chamber projects advance community objectives.
- A new Board adopts a new 5-year Strategic Plan.

Success indicators

Relative to legacy Chambers,

- Our membership has grown.
- Revenues have grown.
- Expenses are within budget.
- Participation in events is strong.
- First Nations are represented.
- All candidate meetings are held
- Newsletters reach audience beyond our membership.
- Member retention is strong.

Stable Governance

Complete harmonious transition

- Conduct Staff Orientation
- Set 2024 deliverables
- Develop Board recruitment plan
- Hold final AGMs of Legacy Chambers
- Duly close books
- Dissolution Legacy Chambers

Create strong governance structure

- Recruit Board members
- Plan first AGM and elections
- Develop & adopt Board policies
- Hold monthly Board meetings
- Monthly review of cash flow
- Monthly review of operations plan
- Host inaugural AGM & launch party
- Quarterly financial reviews
- Support fundraising plan
- Develop new 5-years Strategic Plan

Strengthen Member Engagement

Operationalize member outreach

- Monthly updates to members
- Member data integration
- Member benefits integration
- Board of Directors applications
- Founding members program
- Consolidated membership renewals

Attract new members

- Develop marketing plan & budget
- Recruit business ambassadors
- Local governments issue Chamber letter with business permits
- Host popular events
- Organize young entrepreneurs events
- Invite senior government officials to address members’ concerns
- Publish annual report
- Host events in all local communities

Collaboration & Partnerships

Align actions with public plans

- Town of Gibsons
- shíshálh Nation
- District of Sechelt
- Sunshine Coast Regional District
- School District
- Capilano University
- Coastal Health Authority

Align actions with partners’ plans

- Sechelt and Gibsons Downtown Business Associations
- Sunshine Coast Tourism
- Sunshine Coast Economic Development Organization
- Avoid duplication
- Reinforce each other’s roles

Collaborate with community

- Foster reconciliation initiatives
- Introduce new Chamber to community groups:
 - Rotary Club, Lions Club
 - Local Legion Chapters
 - Local associations

Support mutual interest initiatives

- Downtown Association projects
- Community fundraising initiatives

Investigate visionary projects

2024

- Host AGM
- Organize superb launch event

2025

- Events to be determined
-

Committees & Task forces

Directors and volunteers serve on Chamber committees!

Board Nomination Committee

- Names to be determined
-

Chamber events Committee

- Names to be determined
-

Chamber Newsletter Committee

- Names to be determined
-

Membership Committee

- Names to be determined
-



“We acknowledge that we are fortunate to live in the traditional territory of the shíshálh First Nation.”



**SUNSHINE COAST REGIONAL DISTRICT
COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE**

January 25, 2024

RECOMMENDATIONS FROM THE COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING HELD IN THE BOARDROOM OF THE SUNSHINE COAST REGIONAL DISTRICT OFFICES AT 1975 FIELD ROAD, SECHELT, B.C.

PRESENT:	Chair	Town of Gibsons	S. White
	Directors	Electoral Area D Electoral Area A Electoral Area B Electoral Area E Electoral Area F District of Sechelt District of Sechelt	K. Backs L. Lee J. Gabias D. McMahon K. Stamford D. Inkster A. Toth
ALSO PRESENT:	Chief Administrative Officer Corporate Officer GM, Corporate Services / Chief Financial Officer GM, Infrastructure Services Manager, Regional Solid Waste Assistant Manager, Utility Engineering Manager, Asset Management Manager, Utility Services GM, Community Services GM, Planning and Development Fire Chief, Gibsons and District VFD FireSmart Coordinator Manager, Protective Services Manager, Information Services Manager, Purchasing and Risk Management Manager, Financial Services Executive Assistant Administrative Assistant / Recorder Media Public		D. McKinley S. Reid T. Perreault R. Rosenboom M. Sole (part) M. O'Rourke (part) K. Doyle (part) S. Walkey (part) S. Gagnon (part) I. Hall (part) R. Michael (part) D. McIlwraith (part) M. Treit (part) D. Nelson (part) V. Cropp (part) B. Wing (part) C. Armitage (part) T. Crosby 1 40

**Directors, staff, and other attendees present for the meeting may have participated by means of electronic or other communication facilities.*

CALL TO ORDER 9:30 a.m.

AGENDA The agenda was adopted as presented.

PRESENTATIONS AND DELEGATIONS**Recommendation No. 1** *Solid Waste Disposal Options*

The Committee of the Whole recommended that the presentation from Tony Sperling, P. Eng., Chief Engineer, Sperling Hansen Associates titled Sunshine Coast Regional District Search for Solid Waste Disposal Options be received for information.

REPORTS**Recommendation No. 2** *Future Long-Term Solid Waste Disposal Options*

The Committee of the Whole recommended that the report titled Future Long-Term Solid Waste Disposal Options – Project Update be received for information;

AND THAT as part of the next steps for the Future Long-Term Solid Waste Disposal Options project:

- a) Staff undertake a detailed feasibility study for exporting waste; and
- b) Staff engage with Sunshine Coast local governments, First Nations, interested parties and residents on the feasibility of future solid waste disposal options in support of the Solid Waste Management Plan Update process and the future of solid waste management on the Sunshine Coast.

The Committee recessed at 10:23 a.m. and reconvened at 10:30 a.m.

Recommendation No. 3 *Water Systems Fire Flow Update – SCRD Bylaw / Practice Review*

The Committee of the Whole recommended that the report titled Water Systems Fire Flow Update – SCRD Bylaw / Practice Review be received for information.

Recommendation No. 4 *Youth Programs, Recreation Programs and Youth Centres*

The Committee of the Whole recommended that the report titled Youth Programs, Recreation Programs and Youth Centres be received for information.

Recommendation No. 5 *Community Resiliency Investment Program – 2024 and 2025 FireSmart Community Funding and Supports Grant Application*

The Committee of the Whole recommended that the report titled Community Resiliency Investment Program – 2024 and 2025 FireSmart Community Funding and Supports Grant Application be received for information;

AND THAT a grant application of up to \$1,500,000 for Community Resiliency Investment Program – 2024 and 2025 FireSmart Community Funding and Supports be submitted to the Union of British Columbia Municipalities on behalf of the Sunshine Coast Regional District (SCRD);

AND THAT the SCRD supports the project and is willing to provide overall grant management;

AND FURTHER THAT requests for resolutions of support be forwarded to the Town of Gibsons, District of Sechelt and shíshálh Nation Government District.

Recommendation No. 6 *Microsoft 365 Licensing Renewal 2024*

The Committee of the Whole recommended that the report titled Microsoft 365 Licensing Renewal 2024 be received for information;

AND THAT a contract be initiated with Online Business Systems for one year's provisioning of Microsoft 365 licensing up to a value of \$190,000 (excluding GST);

AND FURTHER THAT the delegated Authorities be authorized to execute the contract.

Recommendation No. 7 *Parcel Tax Roll Review Panel*

The Committee of the Whole recommended that the report titled Parcel Tax Roll Review Panel be received for information;

AND THAT:

- Directors Toth, Lee, Gabias be appointed to the Parcel Tax Roll Review Panel;
- The Parcel Tax Roll Review Panel sitting be scheduled for February 22, 2024 at 9:00 a.m. to be held in the Sunshine Coast Regional District (SCRD) Boardroom; and
- The Chief Financial Officer be appointed Collector for the SCR.D.

Recommendation No. 8 *Director Constituency and Travel Expenses*

The Committee of the Whole recommended that the report titled Director Constituency and Travel Expenses for Period Ending December 31, 2023 be received for information.

Recommendation No. 9 *Contracts Between \$50,000 and \$100,000*

The Committee of the Whole recommended that the report titled Contracts Between \$50,000 and \$100,000 from October 1, 2023 to December 31, 2023 be received for information.

IN CAMERA

The Committee moved In-Camera at 11:19 a.m.

The Committee recessed at 11:20 a.m. and reconvened at 11:22 a.m.

THAT the public be excluded from attendance at the meeting in accordance with Section 90 (1) (g) and (k) of the *Community Charter* "litigation or potential litigation affecting the municipality" and "negotiations and related discussions respecting the proposed provision of a municipal service that are at their preliminary stages and that, in the view of the council, could reasonably be expected to harm the interests of the municipality if they were held in public."

The Committee moved out of In Camera at 11:32 a.m.

ADJOURNMENT

11:33 a.m.

Committee Chair

SUNSHINE COAST REGIONAL DISTRICT STAFF REPORT

TO: SCRD Board – February 8, 2024

AUTHOR: Matt O'Rourke, Assistant Manager, Utility Engineering
Bobby Rebner, Utilities Business Coordinator

SUBJECT: **WATER SYSTEMS MODELLING ENGINEERING SERVICES CONTRACT AMENDMENT**

RECOMMENDATION(S)

- 1) **THAT the report titled Water Systems Modelling Engineering Services Contract Amendment be received for information;**
 - 2) **AND THAT the contract with GeoAdvice Engineering Inc. be increased up to an additional \$34,155 for a total not to exceed \$284,155 (excluding GST), which includes a \$7,265 contingency allowance;**
 - 3) **AND FURTHER THAT the delegated authorities be authorized to execute the contract.**
-

BACKGROUND

At the September 8, 2022, Sunshine Coast Regional District (SCRD) Board meeting, the Board authorized a contract with GeoAdvice Engineering Inc. (GeoAdvice) for water system modelling engineering services up to \$250,000 (excluding GST) which included a contingency of \$60,360.

The existing contract with GeoAdvice has undergone several contract amendments since October 2022 including term extensions as well as value/task adjustments. To date, these contract amendments have fallen under approved budgeted funding as well as initial contract values and contingencies.

The purpose of this report is to request an amendment to the contract with GeoAdvice for an increase to the maximum authorized amount up to \$284,155 inclusive of a \$7,265 contingency.

DISCUSSION

The SCRD's contract with GeoAdvice for water system modelling engineering services is almost fully expended and additional funds are required to maintain their uninterrupted services through the project completion until the end of February 2024.

Several minor scope changes throughout the course of this project have resulted in contingency funds being utilized to complete additional proposed work, including the following value added tasks:

- Comprehensive field data acquisition (i.e., hydrant testing) and water modelling method and data improvements.
- Preparation of additional maps.

- Water system capacity analysis changes and re-running various pressure and location scenarios.
- Pressure zone mapping and map extensions; widened areas of analysis.

The result of these changes and value-added improvements to water modelling engineering services is that the existing contract value of \$250,00 (including contingencies) is not sufficient to complete the anticipated work.

GeoAdvice, in response to requests from SCRD staff, has proposed pricing for a scope change related to additional work related to the following:

- Additional water model runs and associated data analysis to improve the determination of the areas where fire flow deficiencies might exist.
- Preparing final maps with fire flow deficiencies for public presentation.
- Update the associated technical report with new fire flow results.

Staff determined that completing these additional tasks would improve the accuracy and understandability of the results presented to the Board and the public.

Financial Implications

The current value of the contract with GeoAdvice, including all contract amendments to date, totals \$247,827. As discussed above, the maximum allowable contract total approved by the Board is \$250,000.

The value of the additional work being proposed by GeoAdvice is \$29,063 (plus GST). Staff recommend adding a 25% contingency to the GeoAdvice proposal which will result in a recommended increase to the approved contract of \$34,155, which includes a contingency allowance of \$7,265.

As presented in Table 1, the approved project budgets for Water Supply Plan within the North Pender, South Pender and Regional Water Service Areas are sufficient to fund this recommended increase to the contract and there is no amendment to the 2024-2028 Financial Plan required.

Table 1: Project budget implications

	Budget	Expenditures
Total approved project budgets	\$403,000	
Current contract value		\$250,000
Proposed contract amendment		\$34,155
Recommended amended contract value		\$284,155
Remaining project	\$118,789	

Staff therefore recommend that the contract with GeoAdvice Engineering Inc. be increased up to an additional \$34,155 for a total not to exceed \$284,155 (excluding GST), which includes a \$7,265 contingency allowance.

Timeline for next steps

Pending Board approval of the recommended contract amendment, the final study results will be presented at the February 22 Committee of the Whole meeting.

STRATEGIC PLAN AND RELATED POLICIES

This work is focused towards achieving action items and goals identified within the 2023-2027 Strategic Plan, notably the Water Stewardship focus area. This project will factor into decision making related to the SCRD Water Strategy by assisting and guiding future planning and delivery of SCRD water services.

CONCLUSION

The scope and project duration of the Water Systems Modelling Engineering Services project has increased since the original contract was awarded to GeoAdvice for water modelling engineering services. Staff recommend the existing contract for this project be amended to a maximum authorized amount of up to \$284,155, an increase of \$34,155 from the current approved contract value of \$250,000.

The additional contract value amount is recommended to be funded from existing approved budgeted project funding within the North Pender, South Pender, and Regional Water Service Areas.

Reviewed by:			
Manager	X - S. Walkey	CFO/Finance	
GM	X - R. Rosenboom	Legislative	
CAO	X – D. McKinley	Purchasing	X – V. Cropp

SUNSHINE COAST REGIONAL DISTRICT STAFF REPORT

TO: Regular Board – February 8, 2024

AUTHOR: Kristi Wiebe, Acting Deputy Corporate Officer

SUBJECT: REQUEST FOR EXEMPTION FROM SCRD NOISE CONTROL BYLAW NO. 597 FOR ALBERG PRODUCTIONS INC.

RECOMMENDATION(S)

- (1) **THAT** the report titled Request for Exemption from SCRD Noise Control Bylaw No. 597 for Alberg Productions Inc. be received for information;
 - (2) **AND THAT** enforcement against Alberg Productions Inc. under *Sunshine Coast Regional District Noise Control Bylaw No. 597, 2008* be waived on February 9, 22, 23, and 26, 2024 in order for Alberg Productions Inc. to perform filming and activities related to film production at 2854 Lower Road, Camp Byng located at 2139 Lower Road, 3063 Lower Road, and 3081 Lower Road, all located in Roberts Creek (Electoral Area D);
 - (3) **AND FURTHER THAT** Alberg Productions Inc. be requested to attempt to minimize disturbances and that appropriate notice be provided to area residents.
-

BACKGROUND

Email correspondence (Attachment A) was received on January 30, 2024 from Deb Beaudreau, Assistant Location Manager, for Alberg Productions Inc. to request an exemption from *Sunshine Coast Regional District Noise Control Bylaw No. 597, 2008* to facilitate filming and activities related to film production in Roberts Creek.

DISCUSSION

The purpose of this report is to request an exemption for Alberg Productions Inc. from SCRD Noise Control Bylaw No. 597. The attached correspondence sets out Alberg Productions Inc.'s anticipated filming activity dates of February 5, 7-9, 22, 23, and 26, 2024, however any date before February 8th, 2024 cannot be spoken to due to the time frame within which the request was received, and Alberg Productions Inc. has been advised of this limitation. The filming work is anticipated to occur between 5:30 am and 8:30 pm. The locations are located within SCRD Electoral Area D, Roberts Creek, and are therefore subject to SCRD Noise Control Bylaw No. 597.

The Bylaw prohibits noise that may interrupt or prevent sleep before 7:00 am and after 11:00 pm on any day that is not a holiday, or before 9:00 am and after 11:00 pm on any holiday. Sundays are considered a holiday per the definition of "holiday" in the Bylaw.

Staff Report to Regular Board – February 8, 2024
Request for Exemption from SCRD Noise Control Bylaw No, 597 for Alberg Productions Inc.

Page 2 of 2

In order to facilitate the filming work requested by Alberg Productions Inc., an exemption from SCRD Noise Control Bylaw No. 597 is requested. If the Board supports filming and filming activities being done during normal 'quiet hours', a resolution can be passed to indicate that enforcement of the SCRD Noise Control Bylaw No. 597 will not be undertaken during the specified time period.

COMMUNICATIONS

Alberg Productions Inc. has advised that they plan to directly notify nearby residents. The SCRD will support communication efforts to residents by posting information on the SCRD website and on social media, and will provide a link to the Reverse Polling Letter provided by Alberg Productions Inc. (Attachment B).

STRATEGIC PLAN AND RELATED POLICIES

n/a

CONCLUSION

Alberg Productions Inc. has requested an exemption from *Sunshine Coast Regional District Noise Control Bylaw No. 597, 2008*, during normal quiet hours in order to allow for filming and filming activity in Roberts Creek (Area D). Staff recommend granting the exemption.

Attachment A: Email Correspondence

Attachment B: Reverse Polling Letter

Reviewed by:			
Manager		Finance	
GM		Legislative	X – S. Reid
CAO	X – D. McKinley	Communications	

Attachment A

Good morning, Kristi!

Thank you for the swift response to our inquiry!

My name is Deb Beaudreau and I am one of the Assistant Location Managers working on an upcoming TV Series titled "Murder in a Small Town", by Alberg Productions. For your purposes, the company name is Alberg Productions. We will be filming along the Sunshine Coast beginning this Wednesday, January 31st, through until the beginning of May. We have been in communication with the necessary parties for both Gibsons and Sechelt/Davis Bay, but understand that Roberts Creek falls under SCRD.

As is the nature of film, we will be focusing on one episode, or "block", at a time. Following is a list of dates and locations for our time in Roberts Creek for this current block. **Any noise bylaw extension will be bolded for ease of reference (total 4).**

Monday, February 5th - 3063 Lower Road, **530am** until 8pm, **moving work trucks into RC Legion; small crew begin to unload**

Wednesday, February 7th - 3063 Lower Road, **530am** until 830pm, **moving trucks into RC Legion; small crew begin to unload**

Thursday, February 8th and Friday, February 9th - 3063 Lower Road - within Noise Bylaw hours
Tuesday, February 20th - Camp Byng, 2139 Lower Road, **530am** until 8pm - **work trucks move in and park at Camp Byng; small crew begin work on trail north of the lot (approved by liaison)**

Tuesday, February 20th - 2854 Lower Road - within Noise Bylaw hours

Thursday, February 22nd and Friday, February 23rd - 3081 Lower Road - within Noise Bylaw hours

Monday, February 26th - 3081 Lower Road - 1300 (1pm) until **1230am - filming ends by 11pm. We require the extra hour to hour and a half to quietly load work trucks parked in the lot behind RC Legion and leave the area.**

Note that in all instances, these extensions are required in order to be able to have enough hours to complete our filming days. A filming day typically runs 12 1/2 hours for actual shooting, with often time before or after shooting hours to prepare and clean up, respectively. The times set for filming are based on location or actor availability, the amount of work required to set up for our scenes, the amount of daylight or lack of daylight required for the scenes that day, and turnaround time for crew.

Typically we will deliver a Filming Notification letter to anyone affected by our work. I have attached a copy of the letter for our first location here for your reference.

Thank you so much, Kristi! If you have any questions, concerns, or require further clarification, please do not hesitate to contact me at [REDACTED]. Alternatively, you may contact Priscilla Yeo, Assistant Location Manager, at [REDACTED]; or Dana Herriott, Location Manager, at [REDACTED]

I look forward to hearing from you!

--

Deb Beaudreau

On Tue, Jan 30, 2024, 6:34 p.m. Deb Beaudreau <[REDACTED]> wrote:

Hello again, Kristi!

I certainly do appreciate the tight timeline for the decision on this. I may have a solution, although of course it would be with your approval.

I am attaching a Reverse Polling Letter. This is a letter delivered (in this case, tomorrow morning) to any residents who may be affected by the sound of our work. The resident is invited to either reach out to yourself or to our production to state whether they are in support of or against our extension. This will also give us the opportunity to address any concerns for those who are affected and rectify any issues before they form.

Please let me know if you think this would be a satisfactory compromise. Going forward, we will be sure to send our requests to you prior to the regular Board meetings.

Thank you, Kristi! I look forward to hearing from you!

From: Deb Beaudreau <[REDACTED]>

Sent: Wednesday, January 31, 2024 9:55 AM

To: Kristi Wiebe <Kristi.Wiebe@scrd.ca>

Cc: Dana Herriott <[REDACTED]>; Priscilla Yeo <[REDACTED]>

Subject: Re: Sunshine Coast Regional District Noise Bylaw Inquiry

Good morning, Kristi!

I have a bit of an update. In an effort to be less disruptive the morning of February 5th, we will be bringing our trucks into the parking lot of RC Legion on the Sunday before, prior to 9pm. This should lessen any disturbance on the Monday morning.

Thanks, Kristi!

Attachment B

Alberg Productions Inc.

#2 – 985 Gibsons Way | Gibsons, BC, V0N 1V8

NOTIFICATION OF FILMING

January 31st, 2024

Dear Neighbours of 3063 & 3081 Lower Road, Roberts Creek

Please take a moment to read this notice regarding the upcoming filming of scenes for an upcoming Fox Television Series. We will be in your neighbourhood from February 5th to 9th and again from February 22nd to 26th. Alberg Productions Inc. would like to provide some information to help you prepare for our arrival and anticipate how our activity might affect your daily routine.

Following is the detailed activity of our filming schedule with approximate times and dates:

February 5th & 7th – 3063 Lower Road

- **530am - 7am: Crew and trucks arrive and park in the rear lot of RC Legion**
- 7am - 730pm: Crew film interior and exterior scenes at 3063 Lower Rd. Scenes are dialogue only, with no stunts or special effects.
- 730pm - 9pm: Crew quietly pack up and crew will leave the neighbourhood. On Feb 5th, trucks will leave the neighbourhood. On Feb 7th, they will remain parked with security at RC Legion.

Feb. 8 & 9 – 3063 Lower Road

- 8am - 830pm - Filming interior & exterior scenes, dialogue only, no stunts or special effects
- **830pm - 10pm - Crew will quietly pack trucks and trucks will leave the neighbourhood.**

Feb. 22-23 - 3081 Lower Road

- 7am - 8am: Crew and trucks arrive for filming activities at 3081 Lower Rd.
- 8am - 9pm: Crew film interior and exterior scenes at 3081 Lower Rd
- **9pm - 10pm: Crew quietly pack up and leave the neighbourhood.**

Feb 26 – 3081 Lower Road

- **1pm - 11pm - filming interior and exterior scenes**
- **11pm - 1230am - Crew will quietly pack trucks and crew plus trucks will leave the area.**

There are no stunts or special effects planned and there should be no excessively loud noise, although at night the area will appear brighter than usual.

Please note that Noise Bylaw times for the Sunshine Coast Regional District are 7am until 9pm daily.

We invite members of the public to send any comments including indication of support to the Sunshine Coast Regional District at info@scrd.ca, attention Legislative Services. When emailing your response, please include prisyeofilms@gmail.com on this communication, so that our production might also have a record, as well as have the opportunity to address any concerns you may have. Any responses not received by **5pm on FEBRUARY 2nd** will be presumed to be in support of our filming as outlined in this letter. If you prefer, the Sunshine Coast Regional District can also be reached at 604-885-6800.

If you have any questions or concerns while we are in your neighbourhood, please feel free to contact Scott Brown, the Assistant Location Manager who will be on set, at 250-667-8499. If preferred, I can be reached prior to or during filming at 250-589-3262.

For further inquiries about filming or our Production, feel free to connect with the Provincial Film Commission, Creative B.C. at creativebc.com or 604-736-7997.

Thank you for your consideration and support of the BC Film Industry.

Sincerely,

Dana Herriott
Location Manager



January 19, 2024

Re: Legislative Reform Initiative Update

Dear Local Government Colleagues:

On September 21, 2023, the Regional District of Nanaimo (RDN), Alberni-Clayoquot Regional District, Fraser Valley Regional District (City of Chilliwack), and Don Lidstone, K.C., hosted an interactive, discussion-based panel session (Legislative Reform Initiative) focused on reform of the *Local Government Act* (LGA) at the UBCM Annual Convention in Vancouver. While the lack of powers for regional districts in the *Act* was a major spark for this initiative, the session was intended for both municipal and regional district officials because many aspects of municipal operations are contained in the *LGA* and municipal issues with the *Act* have been the subject of numerous UBCM resolutions over the years. Similar workshops have been held previously at the Association of Vancouver Island and Coastal Communities' Annual Conventions in 2022 and 2023. Approximately 80-85 people attended the September 2023 UBCM session, indicating a broad interest in this evolving topic.

Concerns about the dated *Local Government Act* have been widespread for some time among local governments. Although the Ministry of Municipal Affairs has made significant incremental changes in the legislation over time, without a comprehensive modernization of the *LGA* regional districts are left without sufficient tools or authority to meet expanding responsibilities or to legislate in key areas in comparison with municipalities. Moreover, the evolving social, political, and economic environments that both municipalities and regional districts operate within, such as climate change, environmental stewardship, and a recognition of the importance of First Nations' participation in regional governance, should be reflected in updated and modernized legislation. A key component of our discussions is that any additional powers or tools granted to local government are opt-in so that local governments can choose to implement tools based on what is best for their area.

The goals of the September 2023 UBCM interactive panel session were:

- to provide context and background about the Legislative Reform Initiative
- to discuss whether to proceed with the Legislative Reform Initiative
- to discuss options for the best path forward to steer the process

Prior to the session, the Ministry of Municipal Affairs provided some background information and several questions to consider during the group's discussion. This material was useful and very much appreciated.

The RDN committed to sending UBCM members a "What We Heard" document summarizing discussion at the session and next steps. We are attaching that document to this letter for your information, as well as the material provided by the Ministry of Municipal Affairs that was considered as part of the September 2023 panel discussion at UBCM. In addition, we are attaching the slide deck presented at the UBCM session.

We encourage other local governments to participate in this important initiative. As indicated in the "What We Heard" document, the RDN is currently following up with UBCM on the possibility of requesting that the UBCM Executive form a working group on this topic. Having letters of support from local governments across the province would be helpful in demonstrating interest. Should you wish to send a letter of support, have any questions, or wish to share examples of legislative challenges stemming from the *Local Government Act*, please contact RDN Chief Administrative Officer Douglas Holmes at dholmes@rdn.bc.ca.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Vanessa Craig". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Vanessa" written in a larger, more prominent script than the last name "Craig".

Vanessa Craig
Chair, Regional District of Nanaimo

Encl.