



REGIONAL SERVICES COMMITTEE

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 26, 2009

IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING THE SPECIAL BOARD MEETING AT 5:00 P.M.
BOARD ROOM
175 INGRAM STREET

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The next Regional Services Committee meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, September 23, 2009 at 6:00 p.m. in the Board Room at the CVRD, 175 Ingram Street, Duncan, BC.

DISTRIBUTION:

Regional Services Committee

Director P. Kent, Chair
Director T. Walker, Vice-Chair
Director K. Cossey
Director M. Dorey
Director L. Duncan
Director G. Giles
Director B. Harrison
Director D. Haywood

Director R. Hutchins
Director L. Iannidinardo
Director K. Kuhn
Director M. Marcotte
Director T. McGonigle
Director I. Morrison
Director G. Seymour

Cowichan Valley Regional District

Warren Jones, Administrator
Joe Barry, Corporate Secretary
Mark Kueber, General Manager, Corporate Services

(Agenda Cover Only):

Ron Austen, General Manager, Parks, Recreation & Culture
Tom Anderson, General Manager, Planning & Development
Brian Dennison, General Manager, Engineering & Environmental Services
Dan Derby, General Manager, Public Safety
Sharon Moss, Manager, Finance
Jacob Ellis, Manager, Corporate Planning
Kate McIntosh, Manager, Human Resources
Bob McDonald, Manager, Recycling & Waste Management
Geoff Millar, Manager, Economic Development
Brian Farquhar, Manager, Parks & Trails
Kate Miller, Manager, Regional Environmental Policy

Minutes of the Regular meeting of the Regional Services Committee held in the Board Room, 175 Ingram Street, Duncan, BC, on Wednesday, July 22, 2009 at 6:03 p.m.

PRESENT: Chair P. Kent
Directors L. Duncan, G. Giles, B. Harrison,
D. Haywood, L. Iannidinardo, K. Kuhn, M. Marcotte,
T. McGonigle, I. Morrison, G. Seymour and T. Walker
Alternate Directors S. Arnett, M. Dietrich, and
G. Gutensohn

ABSENT: Directors K. Cossey, M. Dorey, and R. Hutchins

ALSO

PRESENT: Joe Barry, Corporate Secretary
Mark Kueber, General Manager, Corporate Services
Ron Austen, General Manager, Parks, Recreation and
Culture
Geoff Millar, Manager, Economic Development
Sybille Sanderson, Acting Manager, Public Safety
Dominique Beesley, Recording Secretary

**APPROVAL OF
AGENDA**

It was moved and seconded that the following Item be deleted from the agenda:

5C1 Letter from N. Avery, General Manager, Finance and Information Services, re: Boundary Adjustment – Nanaimo Airport Lands

MOTION CARRIED

It was moved and seconded that the agenda be amended with the addition of the following New Business Items:

NB1 Grant in Aid Request—Electoral Area F – Cowichan Lake South / Skutz Falls;

NB2 Grant in Aid Request—Electoral Area I – Youbou / Meade Creek; and

NBCSIN1 Land Acquisition {Sub (1) (e)};

and that the agenda, as amended, be approved.

MOTION CARRIED

**ADOPTION OF
MINUTES
2M1**

It was moved and seconded that the minutes of the May 27, 2009 Regular Regional Services Committee meeting be adopted.

MOTION CARRIED

DELEGATIONS

4D1 Ronnie Phipps of the Social Justice and Outreach Committee of the United Church and representing Fair Health Funding for Cowichan NOW; Daisy Anderson, community citizen; Don Gordon representing Concerned Citizens for Cowichan Lodge; Dr. Crosby Watler, Chief of Psychiatry at Cowichan District Hospital; and Dr. Val Cunningham, Emergency Room, Cowichan District Hospital provided a presentation on the lack of funding for health, mental illness and addiction services and its effects on the Emergency Ward at Cowichan District Hospital and the upcoming closure of Cowichan Lodge.

It was moved and seconded that it be recommended to the Board that the Board write a letter to Mr. Howard Walder, President and CEO of the Vancouver Island Health Authority, endorsing in full the following three requests made by Fair Health Funding for Cowichan Now in the June 19, 2009 letter to Premier Campbell: 1. That health funding disparities in the Cowichan Valley be rectified starting immediately; 2. That a meaningful dialogue be initiated between the Cowichan Valley community represented by members of the Fair Health for Cowichan Now Coalition and VIHA in regard to the health care crisis before final decisions are made; and 3. That Cowichan Lodge remain in operation as a residential care facility and current residents not be transferred while discussions are ongoing; and further that copies be sent to: The Honourable Gordon Campbell, Premier of British Columbia; The Honourable Kevin Falcon, Minister of Health Services; Adrian Dix, NDP Opposition Critic for Health and Jac Kreut, Chair of the Board of Directors of V.I.H.A.

It was moved and seconded that issues raised by the Fair Health Funding for Cowichan Now be referred to the Health Authority Advisory Committee.

MOTION CARRIED

CORRESPONDENCE

- 5C1** Item deleted upon adoption of the agenda.
- 5C2** Letter from North Oyster Volunteer Fire Department – Ad Hoc Building Replacement Committee dated June 30, 2009, re: proposed replacement update and suggested process, was received as information.

STAFF REPORTS

6SR1 Staff Report from the Corporate Secretary dated July 16, 2009, re: CVRD Bylaw No. 3003 – Fireworks Sale and Discharge Regulation Bylaw, 2008, was considered.

It was moved and seconded that "CVRD Bylaw No. 3003 – Fireworks Sale and Discharge Regulation Bylaw" be forwarded to the Board for consideration of third reading.

MOTION CARRIED

6SR2 Staff Report from the Economic Development Manager dated June 17, 2009, re: Tourism Cowichan restructure, was received as information.

6SR3 Staff Report from the General Manager, Parks, Recreation and Culture dated June 23, 2009, re: distribution of CVRD 2009 Annual Budget, October 31, 2009 Olympic Torch Relay and Community Celebration Marketing and Promotion Fund, was considered:

It was moved and seconded that it be recommended to the Board that the Board approve the distribution of the CVRD 2009 Annual Budget allocations of \$20,000 in \$1,000 increments to each of the six (6) Community Torch Relay Communities within the Cowichan Valley Torch Relay Routes (Mill Bay, Cowichan Bay, Lake Cowichan, Crofton, Chemainus and Ladysmith) and that the remaining \$14,000 of the Fund be distributed to the City of Duncan / District of North Cowichan / Cowichan Tribes Olympic Torch Relay Community Celebration Committee for region – wide marketing and promotion purposes.

MOTION CARRIED

6SR4 Staff Report from the General Manager, Corporate Services dated July 15, 2009, re: Cowichan Valley Regional Hospital District Audit, was considered.

It was moved and seconded that it be recommended to the Board:

- 1. That the Audit findings report dated June 5, 2009 be received and filed.**
- 2. That the Independence Letter dated June 5, 2009 be received and filed.**
- 3. That the Cowichan Valley Regional Hospital District's 2008 Financial Statements be received and filed.**

MOTION CARRIED

NEW BUSINESS

NB1 Grant in aid request—Electoral Area F – Cowichan Lake South / Skutz Falls in the amount of \$2,500, for sponsorship of Honeymoon Bay Days fireworks, was considered.

It was moved and seconded that it be recommended to the Board that a grant-in-aid (Electoral Area F – Cowichan Lake South / Skutz Falls), in the amount of \$2,500, be given to Honeymoon Bay Firefighters Association to aid in sponsorship of Honeymoon Bay Days fireworks.

MOTION CARRIED

NB2 Grant In Aid request—Electoral Area I – Youbou / Meade Creek in the amount of \$750, for Bay Day's fireworks show – August 2, 2009, was considered.

It was moved and seconded that it be recommended to the Board that a grant-in-aid (Electoral Area I – Youbou / Meade Creek), in the amount of \$750, be given to Honeymoon Bay Fire Fighters Association to aid in sponsorship of Honeymoon Bay Days fireworks.

MOTION CARRIED

**RESOLVE INTO
CLOSED
SESSION
8:27 p.m.**

It was moved and seconded that the meeting be closed to the public in accordance with the Community Charter, Part 4, Division 3, Section 90(1)(e).

MOTION CARRIED

**RISE FROM
CLOSED
SESSION
8:43 p.m.**

It was moved and seconded that the Committee rise without report.

MOTION CARRIED

**ADJOURNMENT
8:43 p.m.**

It was moved and seconded that the meeting adjourn.

MOTION CARRIED

Chairperson

Recording Secretary

Dated: _____

From: Mel Dorey [meldorey@shaw.ca]
Sent: Saturday, August 08, 2009 6:07 AM
To: Gerry Giles; Rosa Johnston; Warren Jones; 'Phil Kent'
Subject: Library Correspondence

The Vancouver Island Regional Library usually gets a grant of about \$1.4 million dollars a year from the provincial government. It normally arrives about this time of the year but there are strong rumours that it will be cut back somewhat this year. This represents about 10% of their budget and may cause severe curtailment to library services. Could you put this item on the next Regional Services Agenda.

The CVRD has received a letter from Bill Holdom, the chairman of the Vancouver Island Regional Library. Could this letter be included in the agenda?

By that time, if the province steps up to the plate gives the normal grant or close to it then we can change our strategy.

Thanks, Mel

From: Mel Dorey [meldorey@shaw.ca]
Sent: August 12, 2009 9:30 PM
To: Dominique Beesley
Subject: Grant Report

Could you put this on the Regional Services Agenda. Mel

Provincial Grants: Update on BCLTA Meeting with Minister, July 28

On Tuesday, July 28, British Columbia Library Trustees' Association representatives met with Dr. Margaret MacDiarmid, Minister of Education and Minister Responsible for Early Learning and Literacy.

The provincial government didn't promise to protect provincial operating grants for public libraries. But, despite that lack of commitment, library representatives struck a more conciliatory tone following the meeting.

In an interview with *Public Eye* immediately after the meeting, British Columbia Library Trustees' Association president Andy Ackermann said that the Minister was "fully appreciative" of the importance of libraries. However, "decisions have not been made yet on budget. So we'll wait for those. But, I think at the end of the day, we agreed we would work very cooperatively and collaboratively with government to continue to support the library system."

A late notification of Provincial Grants is not without precedent. Last year, BC libraries received those notices in August.

We will continue to monitor the situation and provide you with updates as they become available.

----- Original Message -----

From: Renee Cooper

To: Andrew Merilees ; Barry Avis ; Bill Holdom ; Bill Holdom ; Brenda Leigh ; Bruce Jolliffe ; Bruce Whittington ; Dario Corlazzoli ; Dave Haywood ; Dave Rushton ; Debbie Coates ; Debra Morin Brown ; Gail Neely ; George Holme ; Gladys Noddin ; Jeannette Hughes ; Jeannette Hughes ; Joe Bratkowski ; John Douglas ; Kate Greening ; Kirsty Begon ; Kirsty Begon ; Mel Dorey ; Merrick Anderson ; Mike Hicks ; Naureen Hughes-McMullon ; Naureen Hughes-McMullon ; Penny Cote ; Ray Cadorette ; Ron Dumont ; Ronna-Rae Leonard ; Rose Zilliken ; Rose Zilliken ; Ryan Mennie ; Sheilah Fea ; Shelley Downey ; Stan McLennan ; Steve Atkinson ; Steve Atkinson ; Steve Emery ; Steve Emery ; Sue Powell ; Tim McGonigle ; Tom Grant ; Travis Glasman

Sent: Friday, July 24, 2009 2:37 PM

Subject: VIRL Response | URGENT - 2009 Library Grant Freeze - Call to Action

TO: Vancouver Island Regional Library Board of Trustees

In response to the concerns being expressed by the BCLTA (see below) relative to the current freeze on provincial grants to libraries as well as potential cuts to library funding in the upcoming provincial budget, please find attached a copy of letters sent to the Honourable Gordon Campbell and the Honourable Dr. Margaret MacDiarmid.

If you have any concerns, please contact Rosemary Bonanno (250) 729-2313 or rbonanno@virl.bc.ca

Thank you.

Renée Cooper

Executive Assistant

Vancouver Island Regional Library

Central Services

6250 Hammond Bay Road, PO Box 3333

Nanaimo, British Columbia V9R 5N3

t. 250.729.2310

f. 250-758-2482

e. rcooper@virl.bc.ca

w. www.virl.bc.ca

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From: BCLTA [mailto:admin@bclta.org]
Sent: July 22, 2009 4:32 PM
To: chairs-liaisons@bclta.org
Subject: URGENT - 2009 Library Grant Freeze - Call to Action

Attention Library Board Chairs/BCLTA Liaisons:

BCLTA is extremely concerned about the current **freeze on provincial grants** to libraries as well as **potential cuts to library funding in the upcoming provincial budget**. We strongly urge all library boards to review this "[Briefing Note re Provincial Funding](#)" and **fax/write the Minister and the Premier** stressing the importance of maintaining provincial support for libraries. This is a matter of the utmost importance and urgency – **please get your letter on the fax machine and ensure that your local government does the same**. We cannot afford to lose this funding – British Columbians are depending on us to preserve access to library services across this province.

A delegation representing BCLTA, the BC Library Association, the Association of BC Public Library Directors, and the Union of BC Municipalities will be meeting with the Honourable Dr. Margaret MacDiarmid, Minister of Education and Minister Responsible for Early Learning and Literacy, in Victoria on the afternoon of Tuesday, July 28th to discuss the dire situation facing public libraries.

In addition, a press release and backgrounder on the library community's provincial funding concerns will be provided to the provincial and local media on Monday, July 27th and also conveyed to all local governments in BC for information and action.

Please visit BCLTA's "[2009 Provincial Grant Freeze](#)" webpage for a list of resources on this topic, including correspondence from BCLTA to the provincial government, briefing notes and fact sheets on provincial funding, and media coverage as it becomes available.

Please also click on the following link to read an article published this morning on the late notification about 2009 provincial library funding: [Overdue Library Fees, Monday Magazine, by Sean Holman](#).

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This message has been scanned for viruses and dangerous content by [MailScanner](#), and is believed to be clean.



CENTRAL SERVICES

Box 3333, 6250 Hammond Bay Rd., Nanaimo BC,
Canada V9R 5N3

Phone: (250) 758-4697 Fax: (250) 758-2482

Email: info@virl.bc.ca Web: www.virl.bc.ca

July 23, 2009

Via FAX: 250-387-0087

The Honourable Gordon Campbell
Premier of the Province of British Columbia
Box 9014
STN PROV GOVT
Victoria, BC V8V 9E1

Dear Premier:

On behalf of the Vancouver Island Regional Library Board, I wish to express my deepest concern about the current freeze on provincial grants to libraries as well as potential cuts to library funding in the upcoming provincial budget.

Vancouver Island Regional Library, with 39 branches, is the third largest library network in British Columbia, serving Vancouver Island (except Victoria), the Queen Charlotte Islands, and Bella Coola. Vancouver Island Regional Library plays an important role in the region's communities as a centre of knowledge, literacy, lifelong learning, and enjoyment.

Since the economic downturn, we have witnessed a significant increase in the usage of our libraries. People are turning to Vancouver Island Regional Library for help, not just to borrow books to read but also to use the Internet and other computer resources to search for employment opportunities, to apply for jobs, to apply for unemployment insurance, and other such actions to help themselves.

More than 80% of Vancouver Island Regional Library's funding comes from municipal and rural levies. As this level of government experiences its own economic challenges that may affect our branches, the Provincial grant will be more important than ever to ensure our continued support to help individual citizens, businesses and organizations through these turbulent times. Potential cuts to, or a loss of, our Provincial grant would trigger service reductions, layoffs, and possible branch closings at a time when demand for our service is higher than ever before.

July 23, 2009

The provincial Library Act requires that core public library services are free. Since user fees are not an option, we have no alternative source of revenue to replace losses from the Province. Vancouver Island Regional Library has always budgeted conservatively and prudently; the impact of a cut in funding would be more destructive on our operation than on post public agencies. We have always pared our budgets to the bone. For example, our service delivery standards are substantially below provincial averages.

Vancouver Island Regional Library has a long tradition of service, during good times and bad, and continues to play a crucial role in the recovery of the communities it serves, as well as the provincial economy. Provincial funding for Vancouver Island Regional Library is essential to equalize citizen access to information and services, especially in our rural and economically challenged communities.

Your continued support for Vancouver Island Regional Library is critical.

Yours truly,



Wm. J. Holdom
Chairman of the Board
Vancouver Island Regional Library



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Canada V9R 5N3

Phone: (250) 758-4697 Fax: (250) 758-2482

Email: info@virl.bc.ca Web: www.virl.bc.ca

July 23, 2009

Via FAX: 250-387-3200

The Honourable Dr. Margaret MacDiarmid
Minister of Education and
Minister Responsible for Early Learning and Literacy
East Annex, Parliament Buildings
Victoria, BC V8V 1X4

Dear Minister:

On behalf of the Vancouver Island Regional Library Board, I wish to express my deepest concern about the current freeze on provincial grants to libraries as well as potential cuts to library funding in the upcoming provincial budget.

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The Honourable Dr. Margaret MacDiarmid
Minister of Education and
Minister Responsible for Early Learning and Literacy

July 23, 2009

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Your continued support for Vancouver Island Regional Library is critical.

Yours truly,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Wm. J. Holdom". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Wm. J. Holdom
Chairman of the Board
Vancouver Island Regional Library



5SR1

STAFF REPORT

**REGIONAL SERVICES COMMITTEE MEETING
OF AUGUST 26, 2009**

DATE: August 10, 2009

FILE NO:

FROM: Mark Kueber, General Manager,
Corporate Services Department

BYLAW NO:

SUBJECT: Permissive Tax Exemption

Recommendation:

That it be recommended to the Board that the CVRD provide tax exemption to the Capital Regional District for 2010 and that Bylaw No. 3318 be forwarded to the Board for consideration of three readings and adoption.

Purpose:

The purpose of this report is to consider a request by the Capital Regional District for a permissive tax exemption.

Financial Implications:

The estimated property tax for 2010 to the CVRD is around \$20,000.

Background:

Under Section 809 of the Local Government Act the Regional District may provide tax exemption for lands or improvements in an electoral area held by another Regional District that is used principally for public purposes. Section 809 provides that prior to October 31st of any year, the Board, by bylaw adopted by two-thirds of the votes cast, may exempt from taxation certain lands and improvements or both for the next calendar year. The Capital Regional District owns two parcels of land within the CVRD that is used as land banked for watershed purposes for future generations of the Lower Island. The Capital Regional District is requesting the CVRD to exempt them from paying 2010 property taxes which is broken down between Provincial, Rural, Police, Hospital, School as well as Regional District. The CVRD provided tax exemption for these two parcels in 2009, which was the first year this land was owned by the CRD. Prior to 2009 this land was Crown Land, so the CVRD has never received property tax revenue for these parcels.

Submitted by:

Mark Kueber, C.G.A.
General Manager, Corporate Services Department

MK:tk

Attach.



C·V·R·D

COWICHAN VALLEY REGIONAL DISTRICT

BYLAW NO. 3318

**A Bylaw to Authorize a Tax Exemption by the
Cowichan Valley Regional District for Lands or Improvements which
Qualify for a Permissive Exemption Under Section 809**

WHEREAS under Section 809(4)(g) of the *Local Government Act* the Cowichan Valley Regional District may provide a tax exemption for lands or improvements in an electoral area owned or held by a municipality, regional district or other local authority and are used for a purpose of the local authority;

AND WHEREAS Section 809(3) of the *Local Government Act* provides that prior to October 31st of any year, the Cowichan Valley Regional District Board, by bylaw adopted by two-thirds of the votes cast, may exempt from taxation imposed under Section 809 of the *Local Government Act*, certain lands and improvements or both, for the next calendar year.

AND WHEREAS the Board wishes to exempt certain land and improvements owned, held or operated for the uses or purposes set out in Section 809(4)(g) of the *Local Government Act* from taxation for the calendar year 2010;

NOW THEREFORE the Board of Directors of the Cowichan Valley Regional District enacts as follows:

1. CITATION

This bylaw may be cited for all purposes as "**Cowichan Valley Regional District Bylaw No. 3318 – Tax Exemption (Permissive) Bylaw, 2009**".

2. PERMISSIVE TAX EXEMPTION LAND

The parcels of land outlined in Schedule A attached to this bylaw and any improvements on the lands shall be exempt from taxation under Section 809 of the *Local Government Act* for the year 2010.

READ A FIRST TIME this _____ day of _____, 2009.

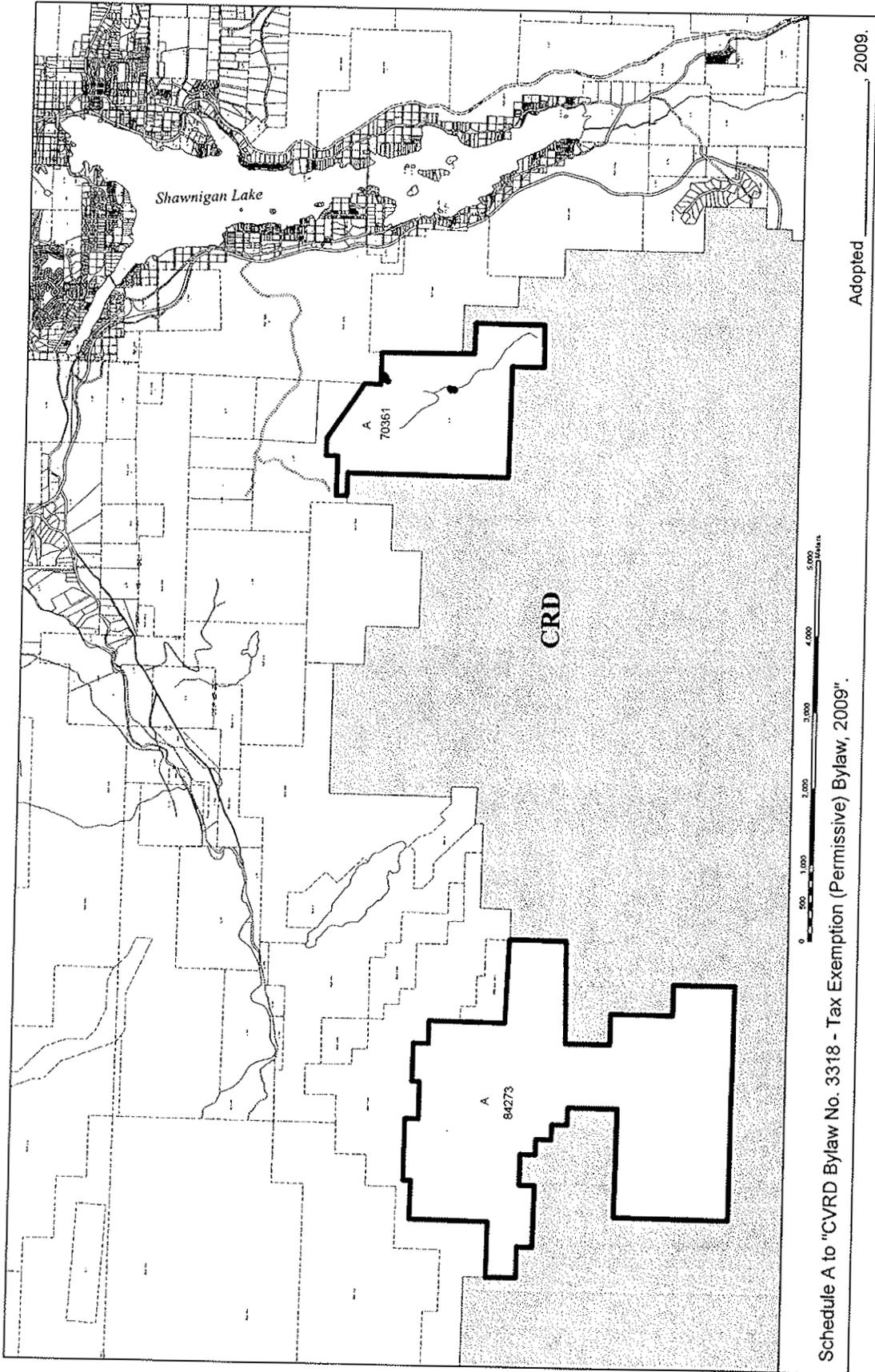
READ A SECOND TIME this _____ day of _____, 2009.

READ A THIRD TIME this _____ day of _____, 2009.

ADOPTED this _____ day of _____, 2009.

Chairperson

Corporate Secretary



Schedule A to "CVRD Bylaw No. 3318 - Tax Exemption (Permissive) Bylaw, 2009".

Adopted _____, 2009.

Our geographic location close to Vancouver means the Cowichan Region can benefit by participating in what is clearly the next wave of innovation. Vancouver ranks among the top 10 new "Silicon Valleys" of the clean technology sector worldwide, according to U.S. authors Clint Wilder and Ron Pernick.

Clean Technology as a New Sector Priority

Economic Development Cowichan has begun a pilot project to develop clean technology as another foundation for the region's economy and as a key enabler of economic strength and environmental sustainability in the future. The project will be a multi-phase project that will include:

- Conducting an analysis of the clean technology sector,
- Identifying existing clean technology companies in the region,
- Understanding why they have located in the region,
- Identifying opportunities for applying clean technology to existing processes,
- Developing a marketing plan to attract additional clean technologies to the region.

Phase One

Phase One has been completed and includes the analysis of the clean technology sector, which includes the identification of existing clean technology companies in the region, information gathered through company interviews to determine their opportunities and challenges and the identification of new opportunities to attract additional clean technology companies to the region. The study provided a number of recommendations including:

1. Creation of cluster development marketing strategy targeting advanced building components and sustainable energy
2. Development of a Cowichan Region Clean Technology Advisory Council
3. Undertake review of local bylaws and regulations to ensure positive environment for clean technology companies
4. Formation of stakeholder committee's to champion and move sector forward
5. Development of Clean Technology Development Initiative

Formation of the Cowichan Sustainable Energy Team

Team members include: Jack Peake, Bruce Sampson, Pete Keber, Tod Spooner, Pat Foster, and Wayne Haddow. The team is looking at sustainable energy opportunities in:

- Waste wood fibre
- Municipal waste to energy
- Agriculture waste

Opportunities will be developed into investor projects that will be marketed to attract new investment and create jobs based on Phase Two results.

Phase Two

Phase Two of the study will be completed by the end of September and will:

- Identify specific clean technology companies
- Understand their needs
- Market investment projects based on matching their needs with our competitive advantages

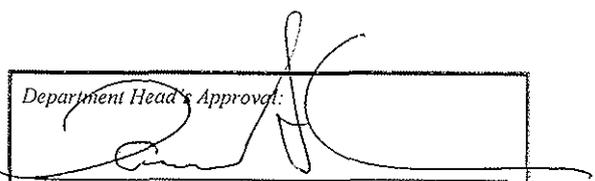
Recommendation:

For information only

Submitted by:



Kathy Lachman
Business Development Officer
Economic Development Cowichan

| |
|---|
| <i>Department Head's Approval:</i> |
|  |
| <i>Signature</i> |