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**REPORT TO GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE
MEETING OF WEDNESDAY, November 18, 2015**

**SUBJECT YEAR END REPORT ON THE SPECIAL TASK FORCE ON FIRST NATIONS
ENGAGEMENT**

ISSUE

The purpose of this report is to provide a year end summary of the activities and outcomes of the Special Task Force on First Nations Engagement (the Task Force) and to seek direction from the Board regarding a proposed time extension to allow the Task Force to fully achieve its mandate.

BACKGROUND

The Task Force was established in January 2015 and has since held four formal committee meetings. The documents can be found at:

(<https://www.crd.bc.ca/about/document-library/Documents/committeedocuments/special-task-force-on-first-nations-engagement>).

The Task Force provided a mid-term update report to the Governance Committee. The related documents can be found at: (<https://www.crd.bc.ca/about/document-library/Documents/committeedocuments/governanceselectcommittee/20150902>).

The Terms of Reference (**Attachment 1**) established a one year time frame for the Task Force to do its work, with the expectation that the Task Force may require more time in order to meet with Chiefs and Councils.

Over the course of the year, the Task Force will have made delegations to seven of the nine local First Nations (**Attachment 2**). The Task Force also reached out to the Chair of the ACRD (**Attachment 3**), met with the UBCM Committee on Aboriginal Relations and met with the Premier to discuss legislative barriers to First Nations participation in local government (**Attachment 4**).

Although the meetings with each Chief and Council provided the Task Force with unique insights and perspectives, some common themes emerged:

- There is acknowledgment of the CRD's efforts to build relationships with First Nations both at the staff and political level.
- There is a genuine interest in contributing to regional discussions and participating in matters of regional interest, but that more discussions are required to determine how best to structure a framework for decision-making and ongoing engagement.
- On matters of governance, there is a fundamental difference between local government and First Nations government, in that the hierarchical structure of upper and lower levels of government does not resonate with the indigenous centralized approach to governance. Effective navigation of the jurisdictional and regulatory complexities associated with everyday issues and needs poses a significant barrier to a Nation working to achieve its community planning, economic, social and governance goals.

- Issues of critical importance to First Nations, relative to local government's interests, include economic development opportunities to combat systemic poverty, and ecological restoration to allow for a restored connection to the land and water for food, medicine and culture.
- Other issues and topics that were commonly raised include:
 - The importance of formal recognition of, reconciliation with and respect for indigenous people.
 - Expectations regarding Douglas Treaty obligations
 - Restricted capacity to fully participate and engage in regional matters, due to limited staff resources
 - The need to acknowledge and accommodate the different circumstances and needs of Treaty and non-Treaty Nations.

ALTERNATIVES

Alternative 1:

That the Governance Committee recommend to the Board:

That the mandate of the Special Task Force on First Nations Engagement be extended to December 2016.

Alternative 2:

That the Governance Committee recommend to the Board:

That this report be received as a final submission by the Special Task Force on First Nations Engagement and that consideration of First Nation relationship matters be added to the Governance Committee terms of reference.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

There would be minimal costs for expenses if the Task Force continued its mandate.

FIRST NATIONS IMPLICATIONS

The "open ended, conversational" engagement approach developed and delivered by the Task Force members has been very well received by First Nations as it has effectively signalled a willingness to co-develop a framework that works for all parties. The initial delegations to Chiefs and Councils were productive but ultimately served as introductory sessions. More in-depth conversations will be required and First Nations will expect the Task Force to follow-up. Discontinuing the dialogue at the political level could put the goodwill and expressed interest at risk.

IMPLICATIONS TO BOARD STRATEGIC PRIORITIES

An identified Board strategic priority is to organize Board training and education on First Nations traditions, culture, history and approaches. The corporate response identified in the Corporate Plan is to design and deliver training and education programs in collaboration with the Special Task Force on First Nations Engagement.

As identified above, cultural training for Board Members has been identified by First Nations as an important signal that there is a genuine desire to build lasting relationships. The Task Force is prepared to actively support staff and interested First Nations to co-develop a cultural training program. The extension of the Task Force's mandate will support achieving this strategic priority.

CONCLUSION

The Task Force has achieved significant success in outreach in a short time frame. The conversations with Chiefs and Councils have garnered important insights that will inform the

Board's approach to First Nations engagement. The Task Force's mandate is to provide recommendations to the Board for options for First Nations government participation in regional decision-making. The Task Force understands that any options forwarded for consideration must be co-developed with First Nations, and that more time is required to facilitate those discussions. In addition, the Task Force will play an integral role in co-developing a cultural training program for the Board.

RECOMMENDATION

That the Governance Committee recommend to the Board:

That the mandate of the Special Task Force on First Nations Engagement be extended to December 2016.

Submitted by:	Sue Hallatt, MCIP, RPP, Manager, Aboriginal Initiatives
Concurrence:	Robert Lapham, MCIP, RPP, Chief Administrative Officer

- Attachments:
1. Task Force Terms of Reference
 2. Summary of Meeting Notes from Delegations to First Nations
 3. Summary of Task Force Conversation with ACRD Chair
 4. Communication between the CRD and the Province

Attachment 1

SPECIAL TASK FORCE ON FIRST NATIONS ENGAGEMENT

TERMS OF REFERENCE

PREAMBLE

The Capital Regional District (CRD) Special Task Force on First Nations Engagement is a select committee established by the CRD Board and will examine options for including interested First Nations in the CRD governance framework.

The official name is to be:

CRD Special Task Force on First Nations Engagement

1.0 PURPOSE

- To meet with the Chiefs and Councils of each First Nation with Reserve Lands in the CRD to hold discussions about how First Nations might want to participate in the CRD governance framework
- To report out on these conversations with recommendations to the CRD Board through the Governance Committee
- The role of the committee is to have conversations about governance and does not extend to other CRD programs or services

2.0 ESTABLISHMENT AND AUTHORITY

- The committee will make recommendations to the Board through the Governance Committee, for consideration;
- The Board Chair will appoint the Committee Chair and Committee members; and
- It is expected the committee will cease to exist once it has reported its findings and recommendations to the Board; a first report is expected by the end of the year.

3.0 COMPOSITION

- Committee members will be CRD Directors
- The CRD Board Chair is an ex-officio member of the Committee.

4.0 PROCEDURES

- The committee shall meet at the call of the Committee Chair, in consultation with the Manager of Aboriginal Initiatives; and
- The Committee Chair shall determine the agenda or meetings, and any Committee member may request that a matter be placed on the agenda.
- At the request of a Committee member and with the consent of the Committee Chair guests or delegations may be invited to attend and participate in the meeting.
- The above procedures might not be followed when participating in meetings with First Nations to discuss participation in the CRD's governance framework.

5.0 RESOURCES AND SUPPORT

- The Manager of Aboriginal Initiatives will provide strategic support and act as a liaison
- Minutes and agendas are prepared and distributed by the Aboriginal Initiatives Division.
- The Aboriginal Initiatives Division will provide additional administrative support as required.

6.0 RELATIONSHIP WITH OTHER BOARD COMMITTEES

- Matters heard from First Nations by the Committee will often involve projects or programs which are to be considered by other committees. Similarly, matters considered by other committees may have relevance for the CRD Special Task Force on First Nations Engagement.
- The Manager of Aboriginal Initiatives will attempt to keep the Committee apprised of reports or initiatives with such implications. Every effort should be made to maintain a streamlined and efficient process, where it is appropriate for more than one committee to make joint or parallel recommendations to the CRD Board, the Manager of Aboriginal Initiatives, in consultation with both committee chairs, will so arrange.

Attachment 2

Summary of Notes from CRD's Task Force on First Nations Delegations to First Nations

Tseycum First Nation

Date of Event: April 17, 2015

Location: Tseycum First Nation Band Office

Representing the CRD:

- Ex Officio, Chair Nils Jensen
- Director Ryan Windsor
- Staff from Aboriginal Initiatives, Sue Hallatt and Erich Nahser-Ringer

Regrets:

- Task Force Chair, Director Marianne Alto
- Director Maja Tait

Representing Tseycum First Nation:

- XÁLÁTE – (Chief Jacks)

XÁLÁTE began by first thanking the CRD for coming to Tseycum and welcoming the delegation to their community. He said this conversation is a good start and is long overdue. Communication is key to a strong relationship and all he asks is for the CRD to communicate with his government about regional decision making.

Policies have been a hurdle for Tseycum. They are often used as a shield to defend this or that action that is not beneficial to the First Nations peoples of this land. The shield needs to be brought down in order to honour the rights of the Douglas Treaty. XÁLÁTE: "Are you the local government willing to support us on the Douglas Treaty?"

XÁLÁTE also mentioned that his Nation is not just concerned with decisions made in the CRD, but other regional districts that reside in their Traditional Territory. Tseycum needs help protecting the natural environment.

Key issues:

- the cost of fresh drinking water,
- polluted shorelines / access to shellfish,
- desecration of ancestors / archeological protocols,
- potential relocation of CVRD sewage outfall to Satellite Channel.

Regarding participation on the Board, XÁLÁTE acknowledged that Tseycum would like to sit and share knowledge with the Board. He said that it is time to "cut the strings that separate us and start working together". Chief Jacks does not feel he needs to be a part of all decision making at the CRD, only issues that affect First Nations such as fish, parks, land, food, and data sharing.

Tsawout First Nation

Date of Event: May 21, 2015

Location: Tsawout First Nation Band Office

Representing the CRD:

- Director Ryan Windsor
- Director Maja Tait
- Staff from Aboriginal Initiatives, Sue Hallatt and Erich Nahser-Ringer

Regrets:

- Task Force Chair, Director Marianne Alto
- Ex-officio chair Nils Jensen

Representing Tsawout First Nation:

- Chief Harvey Underwood
- Councillor Samantha Etzel
- Councillor Louis Claxton
- Councillor John Wilson
- Cathy Webster
- Councillor Stanley Sam
- Councillor Allan Claxton
- Councillor Elizabeth Hermsen
- Administrator Eric Pelkey

Chief Underwood welcomed the Task Force.

The many initiatives between the CRD and Tsawout were discussed including the sewage treatment plant, discussions around the land-use referral initiative called WSA NEC Connect, stormwater monitoring and Tetayut creek monitoring. There are also service agreements for building inspection, fire protection and a source control agreement to prevent grease from damaging Tsawout's sewage treatment system.

The recently developed watershed maps that show the health of the watershed in the area were shared with Tsawout.

Representation on the CRD Board has been an ongoing issue for Tsawout. It was recalled that this topic was discussed with the Chief and Council 30 years ago. Tsawout has representation on the Peninsula Water Commission but that is not enough.

Legal cases are bringing meaningful consultation forward however the exclusion of First Nations under the *Local Government Act* is "an insult".

Tsawout staff provided background to the Douglas Treaty that stemmed from the Royal Proclamation of 1762 that stated that the Crown had to enter into treaty with the legal owner of the land. "This has led us to where we are today." Tsawout is not part of the BC treaty process and never will be. "Canada and the Province don't recognize our pre-confederation, constitutionally protected treaty." As a practical example of how this plays

out, Tsawout wanted to put a sign on the highway pointing to their Nation's reserve land and were told that because they weren't legally part of BC they would not be permitted.

Key issues:

- Concerns regarding agreement for sewage overflow from the CRD system utilising Tsawout's system
- Outstanding service contract to engage CRD to inspect grease traps
- Land use referrals and capacity to fully engage
- Closures of traditional shellfish harvesting sites
- Leachate / pollution into Saanich Inlet
- Biosolids as a valuable resource, going to waste
- Cost of drinking water
- Overall health of WSANEC territory

Closing remarks – Tsawout would like to work with the CRD to produce better solutions for the region.

WJOLĒLP (Tsartlip) First Nation

Date of Event: July 03, 2015

Location: Tsartlip First Nation Band Office

Representing the CRD:

- Director Ryan Windsor
- Task Force Chair, Marianne Alto
- Ex Officio Chair, Nils Jensen
- Staff from Aboriginal Initiatives, Sue Hallatt and Erich Nahser-Ringer

Regrets:

- Director Maja Tait

Representing Tsartlip First Nation:

- Councillor Gord Elliot
- Councillor Joni Olsen
- Councillor Simon Smith Jr.
- Councillor Verna Ellsworth
- Administrator Karen Harry

The Task Force was welcomed to the table. It is important to acknowledge the traditional territory. Tsartlip would like to see a change from a consultation paradigm to one of more consent.

Further discussion about erosion of natural resources due to development and the fact that serious changes are needed to protect the environment. "We believe you (CRD) play an important role in protecting the environment and our part is integral to that."

Tsartlip acknowledged efforts by the CRD in the RGS and the CRD's efforts in sensitive areas. Tsartlip has 3 reserves with ~ 1100 members and that they continue to strive in local economic development projects. They face difficult decisions to make for their community and they are looking forward to some meaningful dialogue.

It is difficult to square the Nation's federal connection and to connect the dots to local government and the CRD. The Nation works with the Department of Fisheries to address the Douglas Treaty rights, but it is not clear how CRD fits into the picture. In order to make effective change, it would be helpful to understand better how CRD is structured.

Capacity is an issue if Tsartlip is to sit on committee positions in order to fully participate in regional decisions.

Key issues:

- Marine sewage
- Runoff / pollution to the Todd Inlet
- Stormwater damage to local creeks / watersheds
- Economic development opportunities
- Environmental stewardship
- The draining of Mayber Flats
- Loss of critical habitat
- Access to traditional medicines
- Barriers created by the complexity of bureaucracy and many levels of government

Final comments expressed a desire to have a follow up meeting which focusses on the structure, funding and decision-making framework of the CRD.

The meeting concluded with a promise to have a follow up presentation from the CRD explaining how it operates and how it relates to W̱JOLE̱LP First Nation.

Pauquachin First Nation

Date of Event: August 17, 2015

Location: Pauquachin First Nation Band Office

Representing the CRD:

- Task Force Chair, Marianne Alto
- Staff from Aboriginal Initiatives, Sue Hallatt and Erich Nahser-Ringer

Regrets:

- Director Maja Tait
- Director Ryan Windsor
- Ex Officio Chair, Nils Jensen

Representing Pauquachin First Nation:

- Chief Rebecca Harris
- Councillor Darlene Henry
- Councillor Alan Tom

- Councillor Herman Henry
 - Councillor SI,OLTENOT (see-el-te-not) Madeline Bartleman
 - Acting Administrator Thelma
-

The Task Force was welcomed to the table.

Task Force Chair Marianne Alto opened with appreciation and gratitude for receiving the delegation on Pauquachin territory.

The newly elected Chief noted that it is time to learn more about local government, the CRD and she is interested in engaging more.

It was noted that it appears that everything the CRD does, Pauquachin also does but on a smaller scale. “We have an interest in all those things that you mentioned in your presentation.”

It is important for Pauquachin that the Douglas Treaty be recognized by any table that they sit at.

There was an interest to see an organizational chart that outlines how the CRD works for better understanding of how Pauquachin can relate to the CRD.

The meeting concluded with a promise of further conversation and information sharing about the CRD and ideas for shared governance.

T’Sou-ke Nation

Date of Event: September 18, 2015

Location: T’Sou-ke Band Office

Representing the CRD:

- Task Force Chair, Director Marianne Alto
- Ex-officio chair Nils Jensen
- Director Ryan Windsor
- Director Maja Tait
- Staff from Aboriginal Initiatives, Sue Hallatt and Erich Nahser-Ringer

Representing T’Sou-ke Nation

- Chief Gordon Planes
 - Councillor Alan Planes
 - Councillor Rose Dumont
-

Chief Planes welcomed the CRD to T’Sou-ke territory. He acknowledged the importance of having strong working relationships with neighbouring jurisdictions to support T’Sou-ke. Chief Planes spoke about Aboriginal rights within Canada and locally with the Douglas Treaty. He acknowledged that the Douglas Treaty was signed by

various Chiefs as a *partnership agreement* with the newcomers. Chief Planes sees the Te'mexw Treaty as being a way to "fix the old things that are wrong with the relationship".

The T'Sou-ke people have always been stewards of the lands. They want to work with the CRD to continue as stewards of the park lands and watershed lands. The T'Sou-ke people are forward thinking and image what this place will look like in 100 years from now.

Land is critically important to the T'Sou-ke people because their culture, their way of life, their language and their medicines are linked to the stewardship of the land. "Our discussions when it comes to lands involve imagining fences around the lands that weren't there when we signed the [Douglas] treaty...it is good to establish words in stone so that our future will be preserved...we have to look at how we communicate about hunting and fishing."

Chief Planes believes that a relationship must start around formal recognition and that if the government could agree on formal recognition "we'd go a long way (together)." It is important to T'Sou-ke that these sacred sites and burial sites remain in their hands. It is important to do things in a respectful way, important that local governments formally recognize indigenous culture and spirituality.

Formal recognition lays the groundwork for agreements that are iron clad. The Chief is interested in drawing up formal agreements. He knows there are other examples of cooperation and partnership that can be duplicated from other jurisdictions, such as Cowichan Tribe's participation as Co-chair on the Cowichan Watershed Board.

Councillor Planes expressed his support for CRD's initiative in building relationships with T'Sou-ke by coming out and meeting with Chief and Council. With each visit, everyone learns a little bit more about each other.

Councillor Dumont looks forward to future meetings and decisions about either sitting on the Board or an alternative that supports shared governance.

Key issues:

- Access to land for cultural purposes
- Hunting and fishing in their traditional territory
- Economic development
- Stewardship of the land

Esquimalt Nation

Date of Event: November 10, 2015

Location: Esquimalt Nation Administration Office

Representing the CRD:

- Task Force Chair, Marianne Alto
- Ex Officio Chair, Nils Jensen
- Staff from Aboriginal Initiatives, Erich Nahser-Ringer

Regrets:

- Director Maja Tait
- Director Ryan Windsor

Representing Esquimalt Nation

- Chief Andy Thomas
- Administrator Janice Rose

Discussion began with reflections on the recent economic development summit that Chief Thomas and Chair Jensen attended. The Chief spoke about the economic opportunities that have been lost to his people over time. “We’ve been facing a lot of hurdles in terms of economic development. We have a vision and sometimes it takes a generation to achieve that. We are trying to find our place in our own land.”

The Chief talked about how he stopped travelling in 1992 and decided to focus here at home on building relationships. Mayor Alan Lowe was a big part in that for him and they have had a good relationship with Victoria since that time.

The Chief spoke about some of the struggles for his community. He said that it is a struggle for capacity with Esquimalt Nation because when a crisis happens it puts everything else on hold and crises happen often enough.

He appreciates that the CRD wants to build partnerships with First Nations and believes it’s hard to get 9 nations together but that it would be good to try to do so. It is important to understand that each community has their unique challenges that they are working to address. “The cycle of poverty binds our Nation and stops us from living like the rest of the world. If we build partnerships it has to be something real so that we can be involved in the economy.”

A discussion ensued regarding the CRD as a service delivery model, and the work the Task Force is undertaking to find a way for First Nations to participate in regional decision making.

Chief Thomas stated that he is not overly familiar with the CRD and it was agreed that a follow-up presentation on the CRD’s structure would be beneficial to be able to move this conversation forward.

The Chief has asked for a seat at the CRD for a long time. In terms of CRD initiatives he has an interest in being able to access financing for housing, working together on sewage treatment and having access to the drinking watershed or other CRD lands for Winter Ceremonies.

Discussion finished with a desire to have another presentation about the CRD and to have a larger presentation about what some other Regional Districts have done in terms of First Nations representation.

Tseycum First Nation (Second Visit, newly elected Chief and Council)

Date of Event: November 10, 2015

Location: Tseycum First Nation Band Office

Representing the CRD:

- Ex Officio Chair, Nils Jensen
- Director Ryan Windsor
- Staff from Aboriginal Initiatives, Erich Nahser-Ringer

Regrets:

- Director Maja Tait
- Director Marianne Alto

Representing Esquimalt Nation

- Chief Tanya Jimmy
- Councillor Brian Jimmy

The Chief welcomed the CRD to Tseycum and emphasized the importance of Tseycum's involvement in (local government) matters whenever they are able. They have received a mandate from their community to work on generating economic development, building housing for community members and to continue to practice Douglas Treaty rights in order to keep the community fed.

There was discussion about how the CRD operates as a service delivery model for the municipalities. It was recognized that some of the Chiefs in the area have said that they want to be a part of the decision making and the CRD is now working to figure out how that can be done.

There was a discussion about CRD water services to Tseycum First Nation and what happens in case of a drought. The Chief is concerned about drought years in the future.

Chief Jimmy expressed her interest in "moving forward" and that Tseycum wants to be an active, involved participant; they want to work on practical day-to-day activities in order to build experience at the "lower level" and work up to higher level governance such as the CRD Board.

The Chief's goal is to look after the six generations that come after them. She wants to see Mother Earth taken care of and wants to be a part of that legacy of change for the next generation. Chief Jimmy would like to see more engagement and is happy to start anywhere that is appropriate, with the CRD.

In closing, Chief Jimmy offered herself as a resource in connecting to the other Nations or bringing information that the CRD might be looking for.

Attachment 3

Conversation with Alberni-Clayoquot Regional District (ACRD) Chair Josie Osborne and Task Force Tuesday June 16, 2015

Lessons Learned from the Conversation:

- ACRD's situation was a direct result of Treaty Negotiations that led to memberships by First Nations (FNs) on the Board.
- BC Treaty Nations would likely respond well to "Non BC Treaty" (i.e., Douglas Treaty Nations) being at the Board.
- Observer status for FNs before Final BC Treaty was used as a way to introduce FNs to the ACRD processes.
- Observer status was successful in this regard.
- ACRD Board is beginning discussions about how to include the input of Non Treaty FNs.
- The Individuals appointed to the Board by the FNs have been key in how the relationship has developed.
- The ACRD did not look at any other models of participation as their experience was born through Treaty as a means to include FNs in the processes of the ACRD.
- Geography can be an issue when managing diverse communities that are far apart. Some meetings change location to accommodate this.
- Outreach is still done by ACRD to other elected Chiefs and Councils and specific issues.
- The relationships that the ACRD has built with Treaty Nations have helped member municipalities' work with those Nations as well. Make sure to choose the right Municipal spokesperson for Regional District issues.

Advice for the CRD

- Advice given to the CRD:
 - if even one Nation is interested, follow up on this and work with them. The other Nations may come along in due course or never at all and that is ok.
 - find issues that connect with each Nation as many Regional District issues do not.
 - be mindful of the CRD's responsibility and the Province's responsibility when it comes to formal consultation.
- Most noticeable benefit of having FNs at the table is the expansion of minds and diversity of perspectives that is brought to the decision making. It has brought fulsomeness to discussions around the Board table.

Next Steps

- Mayor Osborne has agreed to collaborate with the CRD in attempting to meet with the Premier or designate at UBCM to discuss the issue of non-modern treaty members sitting on Regional District boards.

Attachment 4



Making a difference...together

Capital Regional District

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October 14, 2015

File: 0220-20

The Honourable Christy Clark
PO Box 9041 Stn Prov Govt
Victoria, BC V8W 9E1

Dear Premier Clark:

RE: AUTHORITY TO HAVE FIRST NATIONS AT THE CRD BOARD

I would like to thank you and the Honourable John Rustad, Minister of Aboriginal Relations and Reconciliation for taking the time to meet with myself and members of the Capital Regional District (CRD) Board and First Nations Task Force at the Union of British Columbia Municipalities Conference.

During the meeting we expressed our interest in exploring ways to have First Nations participate more directly in decision making at the CRD. As a regional district we provide a wide range of local, sub-regional and regional services and are actively involved in providing services to First Nations through a variety of service agreements. As we expand our relationship with First Nations, particularly the 9 Nations which have occupied reserves in the region, it has become evident that there are some barriers to participation in service delivery as compared to the service participation model available to our member municipalities and electoral areas. We recently amended our Procedures Bylaw to allow First Nation participation from the Songhees & Esquimalt First Nations on the Core Area Liquid Waste Management Committee (CALWMC) of the CRD Board. However to enable direct participation by First Nations on specific service decisions, there would need to be legislative changes which are beyond the authority of the CRD Board.

At our October 14, 2015 Board meeting we announced that the Songhees and Esquimalt Nations have formally joined our CALWMC as voting members. These Nations have also expressed a desire to join the Board to vote on issues which impact them directly as participants of a service. Other First Nations with Douglas Treaties have also expressed a desire to participate, however as there is currently no legislative avenue to provide for direct participation on service delivery, outside a modern day treaty, we are unable to make any progress on this issue.

Some of the suggested avenues we would like you to consider include:

1. Removing Legislative Barriers:
 - a. Review of Division 3.1 of Part 24 of the Local Government Act with consideration to allow Douglas Treaty First Nations the ability to join regional districts
 - b. In the interim, create a governance vehicle that allows First Nations to be equivalent participants in local services without mandatory membership on the regional board
 - Issues imbedded in this framework will have to address:
 - o Indemnification/liability/ insurance provisions
 - o Regulatory powers
 - o Exit provisions
 - o Service review
2. Support First Nations Capacity to Participate:
 - a. Training and education for both local government and First Nations staff
 - b. Programming funds, which build on the Community to Community Forum grants

Thank you again for taking the time to meet with us and we greatly appreciate any consideration you are able to give to our concerns and suggestions.

Yours truly,



Nils Jensen, Chair
Capital Regional District

cc: All CRD Board Members
Robert Lapham, Chief Administrative Officer, Capital Regional District
Sonia Santarossa, Corporate Officer, Capital Regional District

CRD EXECUTIVE OFFICE
Received
OCT 26 2015



October 19, 2015

Nils Jensen, Chair
Capital Regional District
PO Box 1000, 625 Fisgard Street
Victoria, BC V8W 2S6

Dear Mr. Jensen:

Thank you for your letter regarding the authority to have First Nations representation at the CRD Board, which follows up on our meeting during the UBCM conference week.

I appreciate your insight and your recommendations. I'm sharing your correspondence with the Honourable Peter Fassbender, Minister of Community, Sport and Cultural Development, for his review as well. Minister Fassbender will ensure that your input is included in all related discussions around this matter.

Thank you again. It was good to hear from you.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Christy Clark".

Christy Clark
Premier

pc: Honourable Peter Fassbender