



CENTRAL COAST REGIONAL DISTRICT

DATE: 7 May 2015

TO: Board Chair Reginald Moody and Board Members

FROM: Director Alison Sayers

SUBJECT: Electoral Area C Director's Report

Official Community Plan Advisory Committee - (Also see other relevant agenda items)

The OCPAC April meeting was cancelled due to last-minute scheduling issues, however committee members have been emailing each other and Cheryl to try to move forward with committee work. All email correspondence includes all committee members, and important items and discussions will be captured in the minutes of in-person committee meetings. The committee currently has three members and is still searching for at least two more. During April, committee member Joan Sawicki worked with Cheryl to review some of the relevant documents housed at the CCRD and to further clarify the role of the committee. Next meeting: May 12th.

Human/Wildlife Conflict -

I received a letter via email from Jeff Bray, following up his comments made at the April board meeting. I sent a brief email response directly to Mr. Bray.

MaPP -

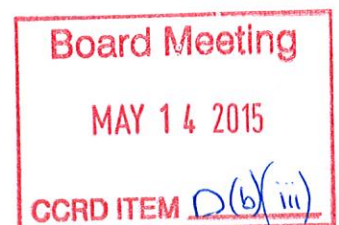
Four sub-regional marine plans have been signed and approved by all First Nations in the subregions and by the province. This is a huge step forward and MaPP sent a press release with the details to all MPAC participants. I was requested by Coast Mountain News to provide a quote for an article based on the press release. The article is in the May 7th issue of the CMN.

Outdoor Ed camp -

Kerry Boileau, Area C resident and owner of Glacier Creek Outfitters, forwarded a draft proposal to me for running outdoor education camps through the CCRD. I forwarded this to Ken McIlwain for further action and consideration, and he is now in direct contact with Ms. Boileau.

Smoking at Walker Island Park -

I was approached by two Area C residents at Walker Island Park recently with complaints about people smoking at the park, and wanting to clarify if the CCRD does in fact have a non-smoking policy at our parks, and if so could we please install "No Smoking" signs at the parks.



Firvale Highway Signage -

In response to last month's CCRD letter to Ministry of Transportation, a temporary speed monitor has been installed at the west end of Firvale! This is great and I am requesting that the board send a thank-you letter. I am still hoping for children at play and livestock signs to be installed as well.

Questions from CCRD for Ministry Estimates -

I followed up with Selina Robinson on April 13th regarding these questions. I have asked that the transcript of the meeting be sent to me so I can share it with the board. Please refer to the email response below from Selina Robinson.

"Hi Alison,

I had a chance to ask the Minister estimates questions on Monday afternoon from 4-6:30 and again yesterday afternoon. You can see the full estimates transcript for Committee A here:

<https://www.leg.bc.ca/hansard/8-8.htm>

I have copied the specific exchange we had about the CCRD below. Most of the questions that you sent were asked throughout the Estimates process so I didn't ask them again with CCRD as the context, but I did speak to your uniqueness and special challenges. You can see that the Minister just offered a bland, non-specific comment. We didn't have lots of time to go into any further details. I would encourage you to set up meetings with the Minister at the UBCM and be sure to reach out to me as well so that I can track your concerns and keep the Minister accountable to her commitment of advocating for local governments.

***S. Robinson:** Welcome. We always take for granted who is sitting in the chair, and sometimes it changes. You sort of get this little surprise, and you take a look and thank them for recognizing you.*

The Central Coast regional district, the minister might be aware, is a very unique part of the province, given that it's a regional district that actually doesn't have any municipalities in its borders. So of course, it struggles. It tries to offer services, and the residents of the regional district want services that you might get in a municipality, but it doesn't have the same financial capacity that you might find if there had been a municipality in the regional district.

The question is: does the ministry recognize that this is a unique challenge? What does the minister think about that? Does she recognize that some of these regional districts that don't have those opportunities, that tax base, in order to generate revenues to provide some of these services might be in a unique position, which might need some additional support from the province?

[1530]

CSA - 20150505 PM 025/JAH/1530

***Hon. C. Oakes:** Thank you to the member opposite.*

We certainly are keenly aware of the unique governance structure with the regional district. Our staff was commenting that that's really what provides the uniqueness of British Columbia, in the sense that we do have regional districts, and we have the ability to provide governance and support even to areas that don't have municipalities within others' jurisdictions.

Staff are keenly aware. They meet face to face with these communities to help support them. They actually have one of the highest supports per their grant applications for how they're set up and take good advantage of the infrastructure planning grants that we have available.

With that, hon. Chair, could I kindly ask for a five-minute break? Would that be appropriate?

The Chair: Yes. Thank you, Minister. This committee stands recessed for five minutes.

Selina

Selina Robinson, MLA Coquitlam-Maillardville

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Respectfully Submitted

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Electoral Area C