



CENTRAL COAST REGIONAL DISTRICT

Encompassing the Coastal Communities of Ocean Falls, Bella Bella, Denny Island, Oweekeno and the Bella Coola Valley

P.O. Box 186, Bella Coola, B.C., V0T 1C0

Telephone 250-799-5291 Fax 250-799-5750

REQUEST FOR DECISION

To: Board of Directors

From: Courtney Kirk, CAO

Meeting Date: February 8, 2018

Subject: Equalization Strategy – AVICC Resolution [Late Item]

Recommendation:

THAT the Board of Directors of the Central Coast Regional District move to endorse the attached resolution for submission to the Association of Vancouver Island and Coastal Communities Annual General Meeting to be held from April 13-15, 2018.

Issue/Background Summary:

The Board of Directors set “Governance” as the CCRD’s number two strategic priority for 2018 and “Advocacy” as its fourth. Advancing public support of the “Equalization Strategy” was identified as an important goal informing the Board’s “Governance” strategic priority.

The Union of British Columbia Municipalities (UBCM) “was formed to provide a common voice for local government” and through “strength in numbers” has the potential to advance provincial and federal consideration of the Strategy. Resolutions may be brought forward by member local governments for consideration and adoption. A resolution that is endorsed by an Area Association generally carries more weight for consideration by the UBCM. Resolutions that are endorsed at the UBCM Convention are submitted to the appropriate level of government for responses and received responses are conveyed by UBCM to the sponsor (in this case the CCRD) for their review.

The Central Coast Regional District is a member of the Association of Vancouver Island and Coastal Communities (AVICC). The AVICC has scheduled its Annual General Meeting for April 13-15, 2018.

Policy, Bylaw or Legislation:

The AVICC and UBCM resolution guidelines have informed Administration’s approach to developing and framing the draft Resolution.

Financial/Budgetary Implications/asset management:

As detailed below, considerable staff time (particularly the CAO's) is still required to develop needed documentation. However, as the effort falls within the Board's top two strategic priorities for 2018, the costs can be attributed to the regular course of business.

Additional budgetary costs will be incurred in a delegation of the Board of Directors (accompanied by the CAO) attending at the AVICC convention in April in Victoria to introduce the Resolution to the Convention floor.

Time Requirements – Staff and Elected Officials:

Considerable staff time in developing the required background documentation needed to accompany the Resolution is still needed to complete the potential AVICC resolution submission.

If submitted and accepted for consideration by the AVICC, a Board member(s) will likely be required to introduce the resolution on the Convention floor. Preparation time as well attendance at the Convention (to be held in Victoria) will be required.

Considerable staff time (in the way of presentation material development and background information research and position paper development) and board time (in the way of networking and public presentation) is required to introduce the Equalization Strategy to Wuikinuxv, Heiltsuk and Nuxalk Nations as well as to the Region's electoral base generally.

Considerable staff time (in the way of presentation material development and background information research and position paper development) and board time (in the way of networking and public presentation) is required to introduce the Equalization Strategy to other potential local government supporters.

Options to Consider:

1. Submitting a late resolution (due April 11, 2018) to the AVICC
2. Attempting to bypass the AVICC protocol and submit a resolution directly to the UBCM
3. Not advancing the Equalization Strategy to either the AVICC or UBCM.

Respectfully submitted by: _____
Courtney Kirk, Chief Administrative Officer



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ADDRESSING THE ON-RESERVE REVENUE GAP IN LOCAL GOVERNMENT SERVICE DELIVERY

Sponsored by: Central Coast Regional District

WHEREAS Canada's *Constitution Act, 1867* s. 91 and s.92 'Division of Powers', and particularly Canada's s.91(24) presumption of jurisdiction over 'Indians and Lands Reserved for Indians', perpetuates barriers to the effective, consistent and equitable delivery of shared municipal services with on-reserve populations given federal Indian reserve land property tax exemption that enables Canada to avoid equitable, stable and consistent fiscal contribution toward services local governments provide and share with on-reserve populations;

AND WHEREAS Canada's *Constitution Act, 1982* s. 36 assures Canada's constitutional commitment to "provide for essential public services of reasonable quality to all Canadians" and to "the principle of making equalization payments" to "ensure the provincial governments have sufficient revenues to provide reasonably comparable levels of public services at reasonably comparable levels of taxation" and that these commitments are implemented through Canada's Equalization and Territorial Formula Financing Program;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that to address the federally driven revenue gap inherent in local government service delivery to on-reserve populations UBCM request British Columbia to work with Canada and First Nations toward establishing an expansion of Canada's Equalization and Territorial Formula Financing Program to include a federal equalization transfer payment for provincial redistribution to local governments who provide and share services to on-reserve populations in their electoral boundaries.

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that to ensure First Nation representation over the management of transfer payment moneys that fiscally represent on-reserve populations in local government budgets, UBCM request British Columbia, in consultation with First Nations, amend Part 7 of the *Local Government Act* to include non-treaty First Nations or adopt new sections under the Act.