



COLUMBIA SHUSWAP REGIONAL DISTRICT

PO Box 978, 555 Harbourfront Drive NE, Salmon Arm, BC V1E 4P1
T: 250.832.8194 | F: 250.832.3375 | TF: 1.888.248.2773 | www.csr.bc.ca

File: 0410 20 10

February 27, 2019

Via email: MAH.Minister@gov.bc.ca

The Honourable Selina Robinson
Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing
PO Box 9056, Stn Prov Govt
Victoria, BC V8W 9E2

Dear Minister Robinson:

RE: Application for Funding: Restructure Study for Incorporation – Sorrento/Blind Bay
Electoral Area C, Columbia Shuswap Regional District (CSR)

We wish to advise that the Columbia Shuswap Regional District (CSR) Board has unanimously supported making a request to the Province to fund a study examining the potential creation of a new municipality that would include the communities of Sorrento and Blind Bay (Option 3 contained in the attached Boundary Analysis Final Report).

Support for the Option 3 scenario was given after Directors considered the ramification of a number of different scenarios presented in the Area C Boundary Analysis Report prepared by Neilson Strategies. This report looked at options including the creation of a stand-alone Sorrento municipality, a separate Blind Bay municipality, the Sorrento/Blind Bay municipality or the creation of two Electoral Areas, as well as potential boundaries for each. The option which best met the technical criteria for consideration for further study by the Ministry of Municipal Affairs was the formation of one municipality comprised of both Sorrento and Blind Bay.

With the Board approval of the motion, the CSR is seeking approval from the Minister's office to fund an in-depth study to determine the feasibility of this incorporation option and its potential costs to the taxpayer.

In considering this matter at the February 21, 2019 Regular Meeting, the Board asked that it be conveyed to the Minister's office that if the Sorrento/Blind Bay incorporation process is not deemed feasible through an Incorporation Committee process or through an Incorporation Referendum, the Board's default position is that two electoral areas are needed to represent Area C constituents and the Board supports the division of Electoral Area C into two separate Electoral Areas. This latter position points to the inequities in the elected representation by population in Electoral Area C and a need for greater representation at the CSR Board.

ELECTORAL AREAS

A GOLDEN-COLUMBIA
B REVELSTOKE-COLUMBIA

C SOUTH SHUSWAP
D FALKLAND-SALMON VALLEY

E SICAMOUS-MALAKWA
F NORTH SHUSWAP-SEYMOUR ARM

MUNICIPALITIES

GOLDEN
REVELSTOKE

SALMON ARM
SICAMOUS

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We look forward to your favourable consideration of the CSRD's request for the Ministry of Municipal Affairs to fund a comprehensive study to determine the feasibility of the incorporation for Sorrento/Blind Bay and its potential costs. The results of this study would provide South Shuswap residents with the information needed to make a fully informed decision about the future governance structure in Area C.

For your information, a copy of the Certified Resolution adopted at the February 21, 2019 CSRD Regular Board meeting and a copy of the Final Report, Area C Boundary Analysis, is attached.

Yours truly,
COLUMBIA SHUSWAP REGIONAL DISTRICT
Per:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Rhona Martin". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "R" and "M".

Rhona Martin
Chair

cc P. Demenok, Director, Electoral Area C, CSRD
M. Edmondson, Director, Director, Governance and Structure Branch

Enclosures