



November 8, 2017

Ref: 207265

Rhona Martin  
Chair  
and Members of the Board  
Columbia Shuswap Regional District  
555 Harbourfront Dr NE  
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Salmon Arm BC V1E 4P1

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Dear Chair Martin and Board Members:

It was a great pleasure to meet with your delegation at the 2017 UBCM Convention. Our new government is committed to building partnerships with local government to make life more affordable for all British Columbians, to improve service delivery and to promote a strong economy that creates sustainable jobs. Thank you also for your letter and enclosures regarding the Columbia Shuswap Regional District's application for funding for a restructure study.

*Chair Martin*  
*Director Demerutis*  
*Area C Governance*  
*Comm. H-ee*  
*Director Morgan*  
*Via email, please.*  
*Thank you.*  
*L. Shyken*

The issues brought forward in our meeting were of great interest to me.

I would like to acknowledge the tremendous effort and thorough work by you and the study committee on the governance and service review for Electoral Area C. I would also like to commend you on your very successful community engagement throughout this process, which included a broad range of approaches from the use of community associations, open houses and surveys. I am always interested to learn about best practices for citizen engagement and Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing staff will be sharing with me copies of the engagement information and materials you used.

Based on our meeting and your letters, I understand the Board is interested in moving forward on a restructure study in Electoral Area C and undertaking preliminary work to examine community interests in Electoral Area F. Ministry staff are working with regional district staff to further refine these proposals. Decisions on funding will depend on our review of your final proposals and confirmation of budget availability. Ministry staff will be in touch as these continue to progress.

I found tremendous value in hearing directly from you and other local governments over the course of the week. As a new Minister, this was an important opportunity to better understand challenges and opportunities in your communities. I am looking forward to working in partnership with you to address the priority issues for all British Columbians.

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Chair Martin and Board Members  
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Thank you again to your delegation for taking the time to meet with me.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'S. Robinson'.

Selina Robinson  
Minister

Enclosure

pc: Doug Clovechok, MLA  
Columbia River – Revelstoke

Greg Kylo, MLA  
Shuswap

