



BOARD REPORT

TO:

Chair and Directors

File No: 0410 5401

SUBJECT:

SILGA Resolution – Resourcing Collaborative Planning on Provincial Crown Land.

DESCRIPTION:

Report from Jan Thingsted, Planner, dated January 23, 2018.
Proposed Board Resolution for consideration at the 2018 SILGA Annual General Meeting.

RECOMMENDATION:

THAT: the Board endorse the following resolution:

WHEREAS cumulative development pressures and conflicts on provincial Crown land continue to escalate in a context of outdated land use management plans; most of which have not been updated for approximately 15 or more years;

AND WHEREAS the provincial government has recently stated its intent to modernize land-use planning and sustainable management of BC ecosystems in collaboration with stakeholders:

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Ministry of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations and Rural Development be urged to take a leadership role and immediately provide sufficient funding and resources to enable effective, community-based, collaborative land use planning for Crown land which includes First Nations, local governments, provincial government agencies, industry sectors, interest groups, and local residents.

AND THAT: the preceding resolution be forwarded to the Southern Interior Local Government Association (SILGA) for consideration at its 2018 Annual General Meeting.

SHORT SUMMARY:

In January 2018, Director Rhona Martin requested Development Services staff draft a resolution addressing Crown land use management planning to be considered by SILGA. The resolution identifies that amount and types of development are intensifying on provincial Crown land while the current land use management framework, intended to address these development pressures and conflicts, is outdated and no longer effective. This resolution is intended to urge the provincial government to promptly begin investing, initiating and participating in modernizing land-use planning for Crown land that is effective, community-based, and collaborative.

VOTING:

Unweighted
Corporate ☒

LGA Part 14 ☐
(Unweighted)

Weighted
Corporate ☐

Stakeholder ☐
(Weighted)

BACKGROUND:

Development pressure on provincial Crown land continues to increase within the Columbia Shuswap Regional District (CSRD) and elsewhere within the Province. Crown Land Tenure for licences of occupation, leases, permits, etc., are granted by the Province in the CSRD for a variety of land use sectors including but not limited to: industry (forestry, mining, aggregate quarries); recreation/tourism (front and backcountry tourism, motorized and non-motorized uses); utilities (independent power projects); telecommunication sites; roadways; and private moorage. In many cases when tenure is granted, there is an overlap with other pre-existing tenures and land use sectors. This overlap and high saturation of Crown land tenures is especially notable in Electoral Areas A, B, E and F of the CSRD, as shown on the attached CSRD Crown Land Tenure map.

See: CSRD_Crown_Tenure_map.pdf

While one particular development activity may have a minimal impact to the land base, it is the cumulative impact of many activities in a finite land base that may compound and cause significant harm to the environment. Strategic Land and Resource Management Plans (LRMPs), which were implemented at least 15 or more years ago, provided a certain level of direction in managing these uses, but either do not exist Province-wide or are now too outdated to adequately address the extent and intensity of current development activity on Crown land.

POLICY:

Several CSRD Official Community Plans (OCPs) contain policy statements which advocate improved environment stewardship and planning on Crown land:

Electoral Area B OCP Bylaw no. 850:

3.2.3 - Plan for and protect wildlife corridors, habitat of threatened and endangered species and ecosystem connectivity in advance of expansion of settlement areas or tenures.

7.3.4 Encourage the Province of B.C. to undertake a backcountry recreation planning process.

12.2.2 Preserve and enhance the ecological systems and diversity of the Regional District.

Electoral Area C OCP Bylaw no. 725:

Section 6 - Although much of the South Shuswap will remain in its natural state, in areas where development does take place there is a need to protect sensitive ecosystems, including shoreline and aquatic environments, wetlands and wildlife habitat.

Electoral Area F OCP Bylaw no. 830:

Section 2 - Although much of the North Shuswap remains in its natural state, there is a need to protect sensitive ecosystems, and ensure that when development occurs, it fully takes into account the natural environment.

FINANCIAL:

There are no financial implications to the CSRD with regard to the proposed resolution.

KEY ISSUES/CONCEPTS:

The recent mandate letter (attached to this report) from BC Premier, John Horgan, to Minister Donaldson (Ministry of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations and Rural Development, dated July

18, 2017), signals that the Province is aiming to "modernize land-use planning and sustainably manage B.C.'s ecosystems, rivers, lakes, watersheds, forests and old growth."

See: FLNRORD_letter_2017_07_18.pdf

This renewed interest in Crown land planning was also echoed by John Hawkings, Executive Director, Recreation Sites and Trails BC (RSTBC), at the November 29, 2017 Shuswap Trails Roundtable meeting in Chase, in which several CSRD Electoral Area Directors and staff were present.

Subsequent to this meeting, Electoral Area E Director Rhona Martin requested that a resolution be prepared for consideration by the CSRD Board of Directors and submitted to SILGA to urge the provincial government to follow through with its statements about modernizing land use planning on Crown land, focusing on stakeholder collaboration, to develop long and short term strategies to manage B.C.'s Crown land.

SILGA and UBCM have significant influence and will hopefully compel the Province to take a leadership role and immediately provide sufficient funding and resources to enable effective, community-based, collaborative land use planning for Crown land which includes First Nations, local governments, provincial government agencies, industry sectors, interest groups, and local residents.

The Shuswap Watershed Council and Shuswap Trails Roundtable are two local initiatives that showcase how collaborative planning is succeeding in the Shuswap and serve as models that may be replicated elsewhere in the province.

IMPLEMENTATION:

Subject to endorsement by the Board, the resolution will be sent to SILGA for consideration of endorsement at their 2018 Annual General Meeting. Resolutions endorsed at SILGA are submitted automatically to UBCM for consideration at the 2018 UBCM Convention.

COMMUNICATIONS:

In January 2018, Director Rhona Martin requested Development Services staff draft a resolution addressing Crown land use management planning to be considered by SILGA. If the Board endorses the staff recommendation, staff will forward the resolution and a cover letter to SILGA before the February 23, 2018 submission deadline.

DESIRED OUTCOMES:

That the Board endorse the staff recommendation.

BOARD'S OPTIONS:

1. *Endorse the Recommendation.*
2. *Deny the Recommendation.*
3. *Defer.*
4. *Any other action deemed appropriate by the Board.*

Report Approval Details

Document Title:	2018-02-15_Board_DS_0410_5401_SILGA_Resolution.docx
Attachments:	- CSRD_Crown_Tenure_map.pdf - FLNRORD_letter_2017_07_18.pdf
Final Approval Date:	Feb 6, 2018

This report and all of its attachments were approved and signed as outlined below:



Corey Paiement - Feb 5, 2018 - 9:20 AM



Gerald Christie - Feb 5, 2018 - 10:15 AM

No Signature - Task assigned to Lynda Shykora was completed by assistant Jennifer Graham

Lynda Shykora - Feb 6, 2018 - 1:22 PM

No Signature - Task assigned to Charles Hamilton was completed by assistant Lynda Shykora

Charles Hamilton - Feb 6, 2018 - 1:26 PM