Municipality of North Cowichan
Regular Council
AGENDA

Wednesday, April 7, 2021, 1:30 p.m.
Electronically

Pages

1. CALL TO ORDER

This meeting, though electronic, is open to the public. All representations to Council will form part of the public record. Proceedings will be streamed live and archived at www.northcowichan.ca. Members of the public may join this online meeting and participate virtually during the Public Input and Question Period portions of the agenda.

- To join by computer, smartphone, or tablet, visit northcowichan.ca/virtualmeeting for instructions.
- To join by telephone, dial 1.844.426.4405, enter the meeting ID 133 119 2154, and then press # to join the meeting.

2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

2.1. Approval of Consent Agenda 7 - 154

Purpose: To adopt all recommendations appearing on the Consent Agenda in one motion. Any item may be moved out at the request of any Council member for discussion or debate, before the agenda is approved. Items removed from the Consent Agenda will be placed under New Business.

Recommendation:
That the Consent Agenda be approved.

2.2. Approval of Regular Agenda

Recommendation:
That Council adopt the agenda, as circulated [or as amended].

3. ADOPTION OF MINUTES

Purpose: To consider if there were any errors or omissions prior to adopting the minutes.

3.1. Special Council meeting held March 9, 2021 for adoption 155 - 156

3.2. Regular Council and Public Hearings meeting held March 17, 2021 for adoption 157 - 167

3.3. Special Council meeting held March 23, 2021 for adoption 168 - 170

Recommendation:
That Council adopt the minutes of the Special Council meeting held March 9, 2021, the Regular Council and Public Hearings meeting held March 17, 2021 and the Special Council meeting held March 23, 2021.

4. MAYOR'S REPORT

5. DELEGATIONS AND PRESENTATIONS

5.1. Cowichan Green Community 171 - 183

Prior to Meeting: Due to technical complications, the video cannot be streamed during the virtual meeting. Members of Council are asked to please click on the link (Link to Video) to view the video prior to the meeting.

Purpose: To present their year in review video for 2020 and an update on the Agriculture Food Hub project on Beverly Street.

5.2. Marita Judson and Jocelyn Anderson - Twin Gables Motel - 1508 Joan Avenue, Crofton

Purpose: On behalf of Concerned Citizens of Crofton, to present their concerns to Council regarding the poor state of condition of the Twin Gables Motel located at 1508 Joan Avenue.

6. PUBLIC INPUT

Public Input is an opportunity for the public to provide their feedback on matters included on the agenda. The maximum number of speakers to be heard during the public input period is limited to five, with a maximum of three minutes allotted to each speaker. To be added to the speakers list, please:

- click on the 'raise your hand' button, if participating by computer, smartphone, or tablet, or
- dial *3 on your phone

7. BYLAWS

7.1. Zoning Amendment Bylaw (1379 Maple Bay Road), 2021", No. 3822 for first and second readings 184 - 202

Purpose: To introduce Zoning Amendment Bylaw No. 3822, which proposes a site specific zoning amendment to permit the use of an existing building as a detached second dwelling at 1379 Maple Bay Road.

Recommendation:
That Council give first and second reading to Zoning Amendment Bylaw (1379 Maple Bay Road), 2021", No. 3822 to permit a second dwelling at 1379 Maple Bay Road and a public hearing be scheduled in accordance with the *Local Government Act.*

8. REPORTS

8.1. REPORTS FOR DECISION

8.1.1. Official Community Plan Project – Status Update 203 - 224

Purpose: To inform Council of the Official Community Plan (OCP) project status and obtain Council direction on potential revisions to project scope, schedule and budget.

Recommendation:

1. That staff be directed to prepare a revised Phase 3 OCP Update project schedule based on the February 10, 2020 MODUS work plan and a completion date of October 31, 2021.
2. That staff be directed to amend the 2021 Planning budget to add $55,000 for completion of the OCP Update with funds to come from previous year surplus.

8.1.2. FireSmart Economic Recovery Fund Grant 225 - 244

Purpose: To consider partnering with the Cowichan Valley Regional District (CVRD) on their FireSmart Economic Recovery Fund Program application under the Community Resiliency Investment (CRI) program.

Recommendation:
THAT Council authorize the Cowichan Valley Regional District to apply for, receive, and manage the UBCM 2021 FireSmart Economic Recovery Fund grant funding up to $150,000 on behalf of The District of North Cowichan;

AND THAT Council directs staff, should grant funding be received, to work on the FireSmart Economic Recovery Fund Project with the Cowichan Valley Regional District and Cowichan Tribes as described in the April 7, 2021 report from the Municipal Forester.

8.1.3. Regional Application for 2021 UBCM Community Emergency Preparedness Grant 245 - 249

Purpose: To consider partnering with the Cowichan Valley Regional District (CVRD) on a regional application under the Union of BC Municipalities (UBCM) Community Emergency Preparedness Grant for Emergency Operations Centres.

Recommendation:
That Council authorize the Cowichan Valley Regional District to apply for, receive, and manage the UBCM Community Emergency Preparedness Fund Emergency Operations Centre grant funding up to $25,000 on behalf of the District of North Cowichan.

8.1.4. Development Variance Permit Application No. DVP00060 for 1379 Maple Bay Road 250 - 261

Purpose: To consider a development variance permit application to vary Section 52(6) (d) of Zoning Bylaw 2950, 1997 to reduce the side yard setbacks for two existing accessory buildings at 1379 Maple Bay Road.

Recommendation:
That Council authorize the issuance of development variance permit DVP00060 and grant the variance to Section 52(6) (d) of Zoning Bylaw 2950, 1997 to reduce the required side yard setbacks for two existing accessory buildings on the property at 1379 Maple Bay Road from 3.0 metres to 1.37 metres on the north east side and 2.15 metres on the south west side.

8.1.5. Cowichan Sportsplex Fieldhouse Update 262 - 266

Purpose: To provide Council with a status update, including the budget shortfall, for the fieldhouse project at the Cowichan Sportsplex.

Recommendation:
That Council transfer all unallocated funds under the Cowichan Aquatic Centre Renovation Capital Project budget to the Cowichan Sportsplex Fieldhouse Capital Budget.

And, That Council directs staff to contact the City of Duncan and request that they transfer their unallocated funds from the Cowichan Aquatic Centre Renovation Capital Project budget to the Cowichan Sportsplex Fieldhouse Capital Budget.

8.1.6. Financial Plan and Capital Expenditure Plan 267 - 308

Purpose: To consider the recommendations from the March 23, 2021 Committee of the Whole meeting regarding the Financial Plan and Capital Expenditure Plan. A copy of the presentation from that meeting has been attached for information purposes only.

Recommendation:

1. That Council authorize that the portion of the Parks and Recreation Director's salary that is currently charged to the Forestry Reserve Fund be shifted to the General Revenue account.
2. That Council approve in principle the 2021 Operating Budget and 2021-2025 Capital Expenditure Plan as presented to the Committee of the Whole on March 23, 2021, including the adjustment for the Parks and Recreation Director's salary allocation, and direct staff to prepare the 2021-2025 Financial Plan Bylaw, with the edit to the Forestry Reserve Fund.

8.1.7. De-Centralizing Forest Management on Vancouver Island & Coastal BC Resolution 309 - 325

Purpose: The Union of BC Municipalities (UBCM) is seeking an amendment from North Cowichan Council on the resolution titled: De-Centralizing Forest Management on Vancouver Island & Coastal BC, as UBCM considers it too regional to be considered by the membership.

8.2. REPORTS FOR INFORMATION

9. NOTICES OF MOTIONS

9.1. Policy Development Related to Street Trees

Purpose: So that Councillor Douglas may introduce the following motion which he intends to move at the April 21, 2021 Regular Council meeting:

That Council direct staff to introduce policies and regulations to expand the number of street trees in major residential and commercial developments and public works projects, as part of the new Official Community Plan, Zoning Bylaw, Subdivision Bylaw, Biodiversity Strategy and any other relevant initiatives planned or underway.

10. UNFINISHED AND POSTPONED BUSINESS

11. NEW BUSINESS

11.1. Letter from the Board of School District 79 (Cowichan Valley) in regards to the Bell McKinnon Local Area Plan 326 - 326

Purpose: To consider the request from the Board of Education of School District No. 79 (Cowichan Valley) that Council honour the Bell McKinnon Local Area Plan (BMLAP), advising that the School District is interested in acquiring the site identified in the BMLAP as a potential school site.

11.2. Response Letter from Quamichan Watershed Stewardship Society Regarding Land Use Policy Development to be Included in the Official Community Plan 327 - 328

Purpose: To consider the recommendations received from the Quamichan Watershed Stewardship Society regarding land use policy development to be included in the Official Community Plan.

12. QUESTION PERIOD

Question Period is an opportunity for the public to ask brief questions regarding the business discussed during the meeting. To be added to the speakers list, please:

- click on the 'raise your hand' button, if participating by computer, smartphone, or tablet, or
- dial *3 on your phone

13. CLOSED SESSION

Recommendation:
That Council close the April 7, 2021 Regular Council closed meeting at _____ p.m. to the public on the basis of the following sections of the *Community Charter*:

- 90(1)(e) the acquisition, disposition or expropriation of land or improvements, if the council considers that disclosure could reasonably be expected to harm the interests of the municipality;
- 90(1)(f) law enforcement, the council considers that disclosure could reasonably be expected to harm the conduct of an investigation under or enforcement of an enactment;
- 90(1)(i) the receipt of advice that is subject to solicitor-client privilege, including communications necessary for that purpose; and
- 90(1)(j) information that is prohibited, or information that if it were presented in a document would be prohibited, from disclosure under section 21 of the *Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act*.

13.1. Minutes from the March 17, 2021 regular closed Council and March 23, 2021 special closed Council meetings for adoption

13.2. Closed under section 90(1)(j) confidential information

13.3. Closed under section 90(1)(f) law enforcement and (j) confidential information

13.4. Closed under section 90(1)(e) potential land acquisition

13.5. Closed under section 90(1)(i) legal advice

13.6. Closed under section 90(1)(i) legal advice

14. RISE AND REPORT

15. ADJOURNMENT

Municipality of North Cowichan
Consent Agenda

April 7, 2021

CONSENT AGENDA groups correspondence received by Council, which may require a response or action, into one agenda item called the consent agenda (Roberts Rules of Order calls it a "consent calendar"). This allows Council to publicly acknowledge receipt of those items in a unanimously agreed to vote instead of filing multiple motions. Any item may be moved out of the consent agenda at the request of any Council member, before approval of the agenda. Items removed from the Consent Agenda will be placed under New Business.

Pages

1. **Draft Committee Minutes**

Recommendation:
That the following draft minutes be received for information purposes only:

1.1. **March 16, 2021 Environmental Advisory Committee** 3 - 4

2. **Correspondence**

Recommendation:
That the following correspondence is received for information purposes only:

2.1. **March 11, 2021 email from resident regarding concerns about invasive species in North Cowichan** 5 - 5

2.2. **March 11, 2021 email from resident requesting that Council send a letter to Health Canada to ban poisonous pesticides that are killing bees** 6 - 8

2.3. **March 11, 2021 email from resident regarding the Joint Utilities Board's planned move of sewage outfall into Satellite Channel** 9 - 9

2.4. **March 11, 2021 letter from City of Langley regarding resolution to UBCM - raising Disability and Income Assistance to a livable rate** 10 - 12

2.5. **March 11, 2021 letter from City of Williams Lake to Premier Horgan calling for a public inquiry into stronger sentencing for prolific and repeat offenders** 13 - 14

2.6. **March 14, 2021 email from resident sharing their concerns regarding the proposed cell tower on Mount Tzouhalem** 15 - 15

2.7. **March 15, 2021 email from the Canadian Union of Postal Workers requesting that Council endorse a resolution to support their Delivering Community Power campaign** 16 - 20

2.8.	March 17, 2021 email from resident requesting Council adopt a policy to ban Chinese-made goods and services	21 - 24
2.9.	March 17, 2021 letter from City of Prince George to Minister of Health regarding the opioid crisis and calling for an overdose action plan	25 - 26
2.10.	March 18 and 22, 2021 emails from Canadian Wildlife Services regarding consultation on amending schedule 1 of the Species at Risk Act	27 - 118
2.11.	March 19, 2021 email from Mayor Staples inviting Council to attend the Duncan/North Cowichan RCMP Situation Table information meeting on April 8, 2021	119 - 124
2.12.	March 21, 2021 email from resident regarding the use of trash netting for storm-sewer systems and waterways	125 - 126
2.13.	March 23, 2021 email from resident regarding campaign promises by Premier Horgan to protect old growth trees	127 - 130
2.14.	March 27, 2021 email from Cowichan Valley Naturalists' Society regarding concerns with clearing of natural area of Phase II of Berkey's Corner Development	131 - 131
2.15.	March 28, 2021 email from Quamichan Lake Neighbourhood Association requesting Council implement a tree protection bylaw	132 - 135
2.16.	Comments from residents in relation to the Bell McKinnon Local Area Plan	136 - 140
	4 emails that were received from residents in relation to amending the Bell McKinnon Local Area Plan.	
2.17.	Complaints from residents regarding the Vancouver Island Motorsport Circuit	141 - 143
	3 emails were received from residents in relation to the Vancouver Island Motorsport Circuit in relation to their April 2, 2021 Easter event, noise and air pollution.	
2.18.	Resident support for Hospital Security receiving Special Constable status	144 - 145
	2 emails were received from residents in support of Hospital Security receiving Special Constable status.	
2.19.	Local government support of the 9-8-8 Crisis Line Initiative	146 - 148
	2 letters were received from the Township of Spallumcheen and the Village of Belcarra in support of the 9-8-8 Crisis Line initiative.	

Municipality of North Cowichan
Environmental Advisory Committee
MINUTES

March 16, 2021, 1:30 p.m.
Electronically

Members Present	Councillor Kate Marsh, Chair Neil Anderson Cam Campbell Bruce Coates Per Dahlstrom Dr. Jana Kotaska Sandra McPherson Ashley Muckle Dr. Jesse Patterson
Members Absent	David Coulson Dr. Geoffrey Strong Dr. Shannon Waters
Staff Present	David Conway, Director, Engineering Projects Shaun Chadburn, Environmental Programs Coordinator Dave Preikshot, Senior Environmental Specialist Tricia Mayea, Deputy Corporate Officer

DRAFT

1. CALL TO ORDER

There being a quorum present, the Chair called the meeting to order at 1:33 p.m.

2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

The following item was added as a late item to the agenda under New Business:

- Motion regarding circulating items and articles of interest to the Committee members

IT WAS MOVED AND SECONDED:
That the Committee approve the agenda as amended. CARRIED

3. ADOPTION OF MINUTES

IT WAS MOVED AND SECONDED:
That the Committee adopt the minutes of the meeting held March 2, 2021. CARRIED

4. BUSINESS

4.1 Presentation from Dr. Dave Preikshot providing an Overview of Emissions inventories and modelling used in 2013 and 2021

The Senior Environmental Specialist, Dave Preikshot provided a presentation with further background information on the 2021 CAEP Update projects approach on modelling and

GHG inventory in relation to the 2013 plan in order to allow staff and consultants to move onto developing an implementation framework for the committees future consideration. A copy of the presentation was included in the agenda package.

Jesse Patterson left the meeting at 3:30 p.m.

4.2 Discussion on Future Multi-Criteria Analysis Workshop on Climate Actions

The Committee discussed the desired parameters to be used for the multi-criteria analysis workshop.

IT WAS MOVED AND SECONDED:
That Sandy McPherson Chair the meeting. CARRIED

Chair Marsh left the meeting at 4:16 p.m. and Sandy McPherson assumed the Chair. Chair Marsh returned to the meeting at 4:24 p.m. and resumed the Chair.

5. NEW BUSINESS

5.1 Motion regarding circulating items and articles of interest to the Committee members

The Committee had questions about how to circulate items and articles of interest amongst themselves without breaking the open meeting rule [subsection 89(1) of the *Community Charter*.

The staff liaison will look into the matter and report back to the Committee.

6. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting ended at 4:38 p.m.

Certified by Recording Secretary

Signed by Chair

DRAFT

Ginny Gemmell

From: [redacted] FIPPA s. 22(1)
Sent: Thursday, March 11, 2021 6:22 PM
To: Council; Al Siebring
Subject: Concerns about invasive species in north Cowichan

Dear Mayor and Council,

Last fall I was hiking along the Cowichan River and noticed a couple areas infested with the invasive species Japanese Knotweed. I had previously worked as an Environmental Technologist at the Neucel Specialty Cellulose Mill in Port Alice and was involved with the Coastal Invasive Species Council to try to control this plant. So it was to my horror when I saw it along the Cowichan River.

I urge Cowichan Regional District to take steps to control invasive species including purple loosetrife in the Somenos Marsh, English Ivy in the estuary along Trunk Road, Daphne or spurge laurel, scotch broom and Japanese knotweed. These invasives are persistent, damaging to our west coast habitat, present in our valley and a huge problem for biodiversity.

I also responded to the community survey and included invasive species as a point of priority for the region. I urge the council to make a priority and a plan to tackle this issue.

Best regards,
[redacted] FIPPA s. 22(1)

https://www.macleans.ca/society/science/the-plant-thats-eating-b-c/

Ginny Gemmell

From: [redacted] FIPPA s. 22(1)
Sent: Thursday, March 11, 2021 6:48 AM
To: Council
Subject: Fwd: Bee killer

Dear Mayors, Councillors, CVRD Directors, Cowichan MLAs, and MP Alistair MacGregor:

Please read the attached notice from non-profit lobby group SumOfUs, then immediately urge — by letter or personal meetings — Health Canada to ban Bayer's poisonous pesticides that are allegedly killing our bee populations: populations vital to our agricultural future.
Meanwhile, please act to ban these and other toxic pesticides and herbicides in Cowichan and across B.C.

Yours sincerely,
[redacted] FIPPA s. 22(1)
Taxpayer,
Duncan (North Cowichan), B.C.

Begin forwarded message:

From: "Vicky Wyatt, SumOfUs" <us@sumofus.org>
Subject: Bee killer
Date: March 11, 2021 at 5:19:31 AM PST
To: "[redacted] FIPPA s. 22(1)
Reply-To: us@sumofus.org

[redacted] FIPPA s. 22(1)

Shocking new research has revealed that **squash bees are being wiped out by the toxic pesticide, imidacloprid.**

And any day now, the Canadian government will **decide whether to join other countries which have banned imidacloprid,** or let Bayer keep pumping it onto Canadian crops.

The Canadian government is on the verge of deciding to ban a pesticide that's killing bees. But pesticide giant Bayer will fight with everything it's got.

The only way we beat Bayer is by drowning out their lobbyists with our voices -- **add yours now to protect bees from Bayer!**

SIGN THE PETITION

Faced with this compelling new evidence, a ban should be a foregone conclusion. But the pesticide lobby spends millions strong-arming politicians to protect their business. And **the only way we can stop them is to drown out their lobbyists with our voices.**

If you, me and thousands of others demand that Health Canada ban this poison, **we can save squash bees from being wiped out altogether.**

Add your name: Tell Health Canada to ban this bee-killing poison.

We can't do without squash bees - they are vital to producing bumper crops of squash, melons, cucumbers and pumpkins. But **when plants are soaked in toxic pesticides, these bees collect a lot less pollen and reproduce at a fraction of the normal rate.**

Three years ago Canada outlawed the most widely used bee-killing pesticides, and promised to phase out imidacloprid in the next three to five years. **Now we need to make sure they follow through.**

SumOfUs members have come together and forced governments to ban bee-killing pesticides in Europe and Canada before. Let's do it again!

Health Canada: Ban this toxic pesticide now

SIGN THE PETITION

Thanks for all that you do,
Vicky and the team at SumOfUs

More information:

Ontario research suggests insecticide decimates popular pollinator, the squash bee Global News, February 26th 2021
These widely used insecticides may be a threat to mammals too National Geographic, February 5th 2021

SumOfUs is a community of people from around the world committed to curbing the growing power of corporations. We want to buy from, work for and invest in companies that respect the environment, treat their workers well and respect democracy. And we're not afraid to stand up to them when they don't.

Please help keep SumOfUs strong by chipping in CA$3

CHIP IN CA$3

This email was sent to peterrusland@shaw.ca. | Unsubscribe

Ginny Gemmell

From: [redacted] FIPPA s. 22(1)
Sent: Thursday, March 11, 2021 3:46 PM
To: Council
Subject: JUB's planned move of sewage outfall into Satellite Channel

Dear Mayors, Councillors, CVRD Directors, MLAs, and MP Alistair MacGregor:

It's great to see costly downstream thinking is alive and well in Cowichan.
Our Joint Utilities Board's $42-million plan to move our sewage outfall into Satellite Channel stinks, bluntly.
Surely that hefty kind of taxpayer cash could fund a land-based water purification plant to transform our sewage lagoons' wastewater into potable drinking water, thereby negating any outfall-movement plans — and serving as a showpiece for other communities.
The potential outfall move will also annually pump millions of gallons of wastewater — treated to tertiary levels at best — into ocean waters now targeted for a new federal marine park in our endangered, salmon-bearing Salish Sea.
So much for our environmental policies espoused by Cowichan's three levels of government. Sadly, those policies can be called greenwash if this needless outfall plan proceeds.
At the very least, our looming giant expenditure should go to local referendum the same way spending on our new RCMP detachment facility did recently.
Please shelve this shortsighted eco-turkey now and give us the long-term green leadership for which you are elected and paid.

Yours humbly,
[redacted], FIPPA s. 22(1)
Taxpayer,
Duncan, (North Cowichan), B.C.

File: 1610.01

March 11, 2021

UBCM member local governments

VIA Email

Dear Mayor and Council:

Re: Raise Disability and Income Assistance to a Livable Rate

At its March 8, 2021 Regular Council meeting, the Council for the City of Langley endorsed the following resolution and resolved that it be forwarded to UBCM member local governments, local MLAs and MPs, as well as the Provincial ministers responsible for Social Development, Poverty Reduction, Finance, and Housing, requesting favourable consideration:

> **WHEREAS** after many years of frozen income assistance rates and only minimal increases to disability benefits the current Provincial Government increased rates, for single people, by $150 between 2017 and 2019 but most people who receive disability benefits or income assistance continue to live well below the poverty line; and
>
> **WHEREAS** the Provincial Government added a $300/month COVID benefit for those receiving disability and income assistance, which temporarily reduced people's risk of losing their housing and increased their access to necessities including food and medical supplies, but as of January 2021 the benefit has been reduced to $150/month and there is no commitment to provide additional support past March 2021;
>
> **BE IT RESOLVED THAT** the Province of British Columbia permanently reinstate the automatic, $300/month benefit for people receiving disability benefits and income assistance and move to raise disability and income assistance to a livable rate that is above the market basket measure (MBM).

Background information on this resolution is enclosed for reference.

Yours truly,
CITY OF LANGLEY

Kelly Kenney
Corporate Officer

Enclosure

CITY OF LANGLEY

COUNCIL MEMBER MOTION

RAISE DISABILITY AND INCOME ASSISTANCE TO A LIVABLE RATE – Mayor van den Broek

BACKGROUND:

For decades B.C. has had one of the highest rates of poverty in the country. As part of a broader Poverty Reduction Strategy, the current Provincial government increased disability and income assistance rates, for single people, by $150 between 2017 and 2019. Even with these increases most people who receive this assistance continue to live below the poverty line.

In response to the economic hardships of the pandemic, the Federal Government determined that $2000/month was required to meet a minimum standard of living in Canada. This is significantly higher than what people on disability or income assistance receive per month. In April of 2020 the Province of British Columbia provided an automatic, monthly, $300 COVID benefit for those receiving disability and income assistance. This significantly reduced people's risk of losing their housing and increased their access to necessities including food and medical supplies but did not raise disability or income assistance rates to or above the poverty line.

A single person on income assistance receives $760/month and $1060 with the COVID top-up. Someone on disability benefits is eligible for $1183.42/month or $1483 with the top-up. These rates do not reflect the cost of living in BC. The current average rent for a one bedroom in Langley is $1200, forcing people who access assistance to give up basic necessities in order to pay rent. These gaps send an impact across our whole community, creating or worsening other social crises, including homelessness and mental health issues, and lock community members into poverty. As of January 2021, the $300 monthly top-up has been reduced by half and there is no guarantee of an extension of this top-up past March 2021.

Access to one-time, temporary measures to address gaps in funding, like the Recovery Benefit, are subject to an application process. The application process will be a barrier for those who require additional support to apply. The Provincial government has signaled towards a permanent increase for disability and income assistance. This is welcomed news but reinstating the $300 top-up, even permanently, would not raise disability or income assistance rates to the poverty line. Ultimately, to eliminate poverty, disability and income assistance must be raised to livable rates that are above the market basket measure (MBM). Community members have shared their significant challenges, poverty and disability groups, locally and across BC, have strongly advocated for this change, Victoria and New Westminster City Council recently passed a similar motion, and Vancouver City

Council passed a motion to raise rates in 2019. We recommend advancing this issue to the Province through the Union of BC Municipalities.

MOTION:

THAT Council endorses the following resolution and directs staff to forward copies to UBCM member local governments, local MLA's and MP's, as well as the Provincial ministers responsible for Social Development, Poverty Reduction, Finance, and Housing, requesting favourable consideration:

WHEREAS after many years of frozen income assistance rates and only minimal increases to disability benefits the current Provincial Government increased rates, for single people, by $150 between 2017 and 2019 but most people who receive disability benefits or income assistance continue to live well below the poverty line; and

WHEREAS the Provincial Government added a $300/month COVID benefit for those receiving disability and income assistance, which temporarily reduced people's risk of losing their housing and increased their access to necessities including food and medical supplies, but as of January 2021 the benefit has been reduced to $150/month and there is no commitment to provide additional support past March 2021.

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Province of British Columbia permanently reinstate the automatic, $300/month benefit for people receiving disability benefits and income assistance and move to raise disability and income assistance to a livable rate that is above the market basket measure (MBM).

CITY OF WILLIAMS LAKE
Office of the Mayor

March 11, 2021

File No. 7500-23 / 7500-25

Premier John Horgan
PO Box 9041
STN PROV GOVT
Victoria, BC V8W 9E1

Dear Premier Horgan:

Re: Call for Public Inquiry: Stronger Sentencing for Prolific and Repeat Offenders

Despite repeated correspondence from the City of Williams Lake calling for stronger sentencing for prolific and repeat offenders, the judiciary has consistently failed to consider the threat to community safety resulting from their release into our community. Although the availability and proven effectiveness of the Electronic Monitoring Program is well known, prolific offenders are not consistently required to wear an ankle bracelet while on outstanding charges.

As a hub community in the Cariboo interior, Williams Lake is often a convenient location for offenders to remain and continue their unlawful activities. Council has argued that the interests of the public have received very little, if any, consideration during the sentencing process. Applying electronic monitoring devices still provides offenders with reasonably limited freedom; this technology does not compromise the safety of the public to the degree that releasing offenders, particularly repeat offenders, into the community without adequate monitoring does. Electronic monitoring upholds offenders' presumption of innocence, and only involves further policing should conditions not be adhered to. This is an efficient technological solution that is already available, and that Council has made a financial commitment to supporting.

Williams Lake residents have worked hard to combat crime in our community, and have come together to strive toward becoming a crime-free community. The judicial system is overburdened, due in large part to repeat offenders. We have continued to request the courts and judges to take into consideration the community appetite to see stricter penalties applied to these types of criminals, and that they not be released. **At Council's request, the possibility of a public inquiry to determine why so many prolific offenders with serious charges are constantly released into our community with ineffective deterrents to re-offend, is now being pursued by our MP and our MLA.**

The following resolution has been endorsed by Council and forwarded to the North Central Local Government Association as part of its ongoing lobbying efforts:

.../2

WHEREAS Williams Lake has repeatedly called for stronger sentencing for prolific and repeat offenders being released into the community;

AND WHEREAS the judiciary has consistently failed to adequately ensure community safety when releasing prolific and repeat offenders on conditions;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that NCLGA and UBCM petition the provincial and federal governments to enact legislative and regulatory changes to the criminal justice system to apply stricter penalties and ensure adequate incarceration of prolific criminals, including consistent use of electronic monitoring when released on conditions.

The City of Williams Lake is seeking public feedback to strengthen these efforts in the form of a survey, which went live on February 19, 2021. The questions include:

- Do you agree that repeat offenders for indictable offences such as theft over $5000, break and enter, aggravated or sexual assault and murder should NOT be released while awaiting trial?
- Do you support prolific and repeat offenders with in excess of 50 charges being released back into your community on bail?
- Do you agree that when repeat offenders are released on conditions or probation, they should be required to wear an electronic monitoring device?
- Do you agree there needs to be an inquiry and review into the judicial and sentencing system?

At the time of this writing, over 600 responses have been received. The responses very clearly support stricter penalties and monitoring for prolific and repeat offenders (over 94%).

Working with our MP, Todd Doherty, and MLA, Lorne Doerkson, City of Williams Lake Council is formally requesting a public inquiry into this serious, ongoing issue. We are also seeking support from the Federal government.

I look forward to your response.

Yours truly,

Mayor Walt Cobb

c: MP Todd Doherty, Cariboo-Prince George
Minister Mike Farnworth, Minister of Public Safety & Solicitor General
Minister David Eby, Attorney General and Minister Responsible for Housing
MLA Lorne Doerkson, Cariboo-Chilcotin
All British Columbia Municipalities and Regional Districts
Inspector Jeff Pelley, Williams Lake RCMP

Ginny Gemmell

From: [redacted] FIPPA s. 22(1)
Sent: Sunday, March 14, 2021 7:59 PM
To: Council
Subject: Cell Tower Mount Tzouhalem

Dear Council,

I'm writing to you as a North Cowichan taxpayer and mother of three children aged 5, 3 and a baby aged 5 months.

We recently learned that Rogers are proposing to install a 5G cell tower within 200ft of our home. My husband and I moved to Canada from Scotland three years ago. We chose the Cowichan Valley as it is a safe and healthy environment to raise our children. My husband and I are dismayed that council voted in favor of the tower in a location so close to residents and at one of Duncan's top tourist attractions. Also there are no long term studies that confirm 5G technology is safe.

The 5G roll out has been halted in a number of countries including Switzerland due to health concerns. I want to make it clear that the tower when built would emit constant high frequency microwave radiation at up to 300Ghz, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. High frequency microwave radiation has been proven to affect young and developing children far more than adults, and as a mother I'm deeply concerned. No one wants to live next to a cell tower especially when they children and it's a mistake for council to approve this location in close proximity to so many homes.

Researchers in Germany studied 1000 residents who lived in close proximity to two cell phone towers for 10 years. During the last five years of the observations, researchers discovered neighbors living within 400 meters of the cell towers were diagnosed with cancer at a rate that was three times higher than those who lived much further away.

Our neighbourhood is already suffering from the excess traffic volumes and we pay very high property taxes, we alone pay $7500.00 per year. The thought of walking outside my front door and being faced with a 35ft mobile mast tower on top of this fills me with dread.

I urge you to re-consider the citing of this tower for the sake of local families and my children's health.

Kind regards
[redacted] FIPPA s. 22(1)

Sent from my iPad

Ginny Gemmell

From: Info
Sent: Monday, March 15, 2021 4:13 PM
To: Council
Cc: Info
Subject: FW: SUPPORT DELIVERING COMMUNITY POWER
Attachments: EMarchRequest for Support for Delivering Community Power_E.pdf; Mailing informations for SUPPORT DELIVERING COMMUNITY POWER_E2.pdf; resolutionSUPPORT DELIVERING COMMUNITY POWER_E2.pdf

FYI – this email was sent to Municipal Leaders across Canada.

Thanks,

Tammy Isaachsen
Communications and Engagement Coordinator
Office of the Mayor and CAO, Municipality of North Cowichan
tammy.isaachsen@northcowichan.ca
T 250.746.3206
C 250.510.4833

From: Dani Nadeau
Sent: Monday, March 15, 2021 11:02 AM
To: Info
Subject: SUPPORT DELIVERING COMMUNITY POWER

Dear Municipal leaders,

Attached is a letter from our National President, Jan Simpson, as well as a resolution that may be adopted by your council.

Our *"Delivering Community Power"* campaign fits perfectly into a just and inclusive post-COVID, post-carbon recovery that will benefit all communities. Canada Post and its network of 6,400 post offices need to offer more.

On behalf of over 55,000 postal workers from coast to coast to coast, I urge you to adopt this resolution. Your support will be invaluable to ensure the federal government's commitment to necessary change.

If you need more information or have any questions about our campaign, please feel free to contact me and I will be happy to help.

Please accept my best regards.

Kate Holowatiuk
Delivering Community Power
Campaign Coordinator- Pacific Region
kholowatiuk@cupw-sttp.org
(780) 884-3962

March, 2021

Subject: Request for Support for Delivering Community Power

Dear Municipal Leaders,

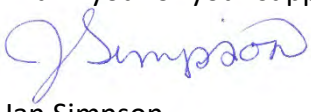
In 2016, the Canadian Union of Postal Workers, with a coalition of allies, launched *Delivering Community Power* – a visionary program for Canada Post to confront climate change, promote better access to expanded services, bring financial inclusion to unbanked and underbanked communities, and address other social inequalities – all by making the most of our existing public postal service network.

Today, while progress has been made on many of the initiatives in the vision, the situation has become more urgent. Effects of climate change are deadly and are affecting nearly every part of society all around the world. The COVID-19 pandemic has revealed the need for a more equal, more resilient society that prioritizes the health of our must vulnerable neighbours and loved ones, *before* profit. We are relying more than ever on the internet to connect people and to do our business, but rural residents are getting second-class service.

The continuing decline of letters combined with a dramatic rise in parcels from e-commerce makes it plain to see: the postal service has to adapt to a new reality. This is a great opportunity to address multiple problems at once, with a valued public infrastructure that connects everyone in their own community.

Please consider proposing the attached resolution to have your municipality endorse the campaign for expanded services, financial viability, climate action, and – all through leveraging our public postal system. The time is now!

Thank you for your support!



Jan Simpson
National President
Canadian Union of Postal Workers

//dn cope 225

Whereas there is an urgent need for banking services among the unbanked or underbanked, given that thousands of villages and rural municipalities do not have a bank branch and more than 900 municipalities have expressed their support for postal banking;

Whereas thousands of Canadians do not have access to affordable high-speed Internet, and the federal government has long promised to bridge the rural broadband gap;

Whereas urgent action is needed to establish a robust network of electric vehicle charging stations;

Whereas to achieve carbon-neutral targets by 2050, Canada Post must greatly accelerate the electrification of its fleet;

Whereas the extensive network of post offices in our communities can provide a wide range of services as community hubs;

Whereas Canada Post's letter carriers and RSMCs can check-in on vulnerable residents to help keep us in our homes longer as we age;

Whereas Canada Post must play its part for a more equitable post-pandemic recovery;

Whereas "The Way Forward for Canada Post," the report of the 2016 federal public review of the postal service, recommended that Canada Post expand services and adapt its services to the changing needs of the public;

Whereas the Canadian Union of Postal Workers has advanced *Delivering Community Power*, a vision of the post-carbon digital-age postal service that address the above needs and more;

Be it resolved that endorse *Delivering Community Power*, and write to the Honourable Anita Anand, Minister for Public Services and Procurement, with its rationale and a copy of this resolution.

MAILING INFORMATION

Please send your resolution to: Anita Anand, Minister of Public Services and Procurement, Rm 18A1, 11 Laurier Street Phase III, Place du Portage, Gatineau, QC, K1A 0S5

Please send copies of your resolution to:

Jan Simpson, President, Canadian Union of Postal Workers, 377 Bank Street, Ottawa, Ontario, K2P 1Y3

Your Member of Parliament. You can get your MP's name, phone number and address by calling 1-800 463-6868 (at no charge) or going to the Parliament of Canada website: https://www.ourcommons.ca/Members/en

Please save this document using the name of your organization or municipality in the document's name.

//dn cope 225

Dear Mayors, Councillors and CVRD Directors:
Please be apprised of the just and timely work our Cowichan MP Alistair MacGregor and his government are doing concerning documented, hideous human-rights abuses by the Chinese Communist Party.
I forward this letter in hopes all Chinese-made goods and services be rejected by our local governments in favour of local, Canadian and B.C.-made stuff.
In fact, I strongly urge all levels of Cowichan government to pass policies in this regard, unless you've already done so.

Yours humbly,

Duncan-North Cowichan, B.C.

Begin forwarded message:

From: "MacGregor, Alistair- Riding 1F" <Alistair.MacGregor.C1F@parl.gc.ca>
Subject: Response regarding the genocide of the Uyghur people
Date: March 17, 2021 at 1:30:45 PM PDT
To: ">

Dear ,
Thank you for taking the time to reach out to me regarding what our NDP Government is doing to hold China accountable for its genocide of the Uyghur people.
My NDP colleagues and I voted unanimously – alongside our House of Commons colleagues, that in the opinion of the House, the People's Republic of China has engaged in actions consistent with the United Nations General Assembly Resolution 260, commonly known as the "Genocide Convention", including detention camps and measures intended to prevent births as it pertains to Uyghurs and other Turkic Muslims.
As I represent you on the federal level and your email mentions an NDP government and an article discussing the vote in the House of Commons, I believe you may be trying to reach your MLA – your provincial representative. If that is true you can find out who that is by entering your postal code here.
Thank you again for taking the time to write to me.
Sincerely.

Alistair MacGregor, MP
Cowichan-Malahat-Langford
NDP Critic for Agriculture and Agri-food, Rural Economic Development, Deputy Critic for Justice

(TEL) 250-746-4896 | 1-866-609-9998 | (FAX) 250-746-2354
alistair.macgregor@parl.gc.ca
From:
Sent: February 23, 2021 9:38 PM
To: [redacted] FIPPA s. 22(1)
Subject: Ottawa and the Evil Chinese Government: When will Canada finally demand human changes by the Chinese Communist Party?

Dear Alistair: What is our NDP government doing to bring the Chinese government to task about its criminal genocides and evil world-takeover goals?
This is a priority question as Canada mulls it's 5G future — and our role on the global stage. Canada should be a major voice of reason, justice and civilization. I look to your democratically compassionate party to make us one!
We want mice to lead us mice, not cats!
Best regards,
,
Duncan, B.C.

PARLIAMENT FOLLOWS MLI'S LEAD BY DECLARING CHINA'S ACTIONS AGAINST UYGHURS A GENOCIDE

OTTAWA, ON (February 23, 2021): Yesterday, Parliament voted unanimously to declare that China's actions against Uyghur Muslims in Xinjiang constitute a genocide. This is another major victory for MLI's work on foreign policy, China, and human rights.

As MLI's experts have long argued, China's use of mass state surveillance, forced labour, forced assimilation and religious renunciation, mass internment in concentration camps, forced sterilization, mandatory birth control, systematic sexual abuse, and much more clearly rise to the threshold of genocide. More recently, MLI Senior Fellow Sarah Teich wrote an op-ed in the *Toronto Sun* specifically responding to the Prime Minister's refusal to recognize the facts.

"It is a positive step that Parliament has come to recognize what has been plainly true for far too long," says MLI Senior Fellow, Charles Burton. "However, with cabinet abstaining, we have not seen whether Ottawa will change its hitherto passive approach to dealing with a declared genocidal state."

Experts at MLI have warned about this "harrowing genocide," urging action from Ottawa for quite some time. Addressing this genocide was among the top recommendations for Minister Marc Garneau when he took on the mantle of Foreign Affairs Minister. To bring further attention to this issue, we have hosted webinar discussions featuring Uyghur rights activists like Rahima Mahmut. Furthermore, given China's clear pattern of human rights abuses, our authors have warned that Beijing mustn't be allowed to shape the future of human rights at the UN.

MLI experts have appeared or been quoted throughout the national media, including CBC, CTV, Global News, the *Toronto Star*, the *Toronto Sun*, the *National Post*, the *Globe and Mail*, *Maclean's*, and much, much more. We are the only think tank in Canada with this kind of reach on this issue.

Our efforts have clearly contributed to the shaping of public opinion. Polling conducted by MLI has clearly shown that Canadians want a shift in our foreign policy to work more closely with democracies to counter the belligerence of aggressive, revisionist states like China.

Specifically, four-in-five Canadians believe that the federal government ought to do more to respond to China's routine human rights abuses. Moreover, our polling has found that only 7 percent of Canadians have an even moderately-positive view of China – a stark decline from just a few years ago.

But there is much more to do. While the vote in Parliament was a significant step in the right direction, Canada should contribute meaningfully to global action to address China's routine human rights abuses, including by:

- Employing Magnitsky sanctions against responsible actors;
- Designating imports from Xinjiang as having come from forced labour;
- Banning Huawei, which enables China's repression in Xinjiang, from participating in our 5G; and
- Rethinking Canada's overall approach to China.

"The Macdonald-Laurier Institute stands alone as Canada's leading think tank on this and many other important issues," argues MLI Managing Director, Brian Lee Crowley. "Freed from the party whip, our Parliamentarians have shown that they largely agree with our assessment of China and they want Canada to assert leadership and end its policy of appeasement.

"We will continue to steer policy-makers in the right direction, whether that is declaring China's human rights abuses against Uyghurs as a genocide, or the myriad of other issues which matter most to Canadians."

Our experts are available to discuss this decision and what it means for the future of Canada-China relations. To arrange an interview, media are invited to contact:

Brett Byers
Communications and Digital Media Manager
613-482-8327 x105

CITY OF
PRINCE GEORGE

OFFICE OF THE MAYOR

1100 Patricia Blvd. | Prince George, BC, Canada V2L 3V9
p: 250.561.7600 | www.princegeorge.ca

March 17, 2021

Transmitted via email: patty.hajdu@parl.gc.ca

The Honourable Patty Hajdu, P.C. M.P.
Minister of Health
House of Commons
Ottawa, Ontario K1A 0A6

RE: Opioid Crisis and Call for Overdose Action Plan

Dear Minister,

The City of Prince George Council and Staff have taken part in conversations with many stakeholders across our community regarding the impact of the opioid crisis on local health and policing resources. We acknowledge the steps taken by the Government of Canada thus far in addressing the need to improve access to treatment and harm reduction services, legal protection for individuals seeking emergency services during an overdose by way of the Good Samaritan Drug Overdose Act, awareness and prevention around the use of opioids, and the continued work to reduce the illegal and often tainted opioid supply.

To further support the country's effort in addressing the opioid crisis, the City of Prince George calls upon the Government of Canada to further its work through the implementation of a National Overdose Action Plan. As such, the City supports the following resolution shared by other municipal councils across the province:

WHEREAS the opioid crisis is one of the largest public health emergencies of our lifetime, with a death about every two hours on average and a death toll of over 16,360 since 2016 (January 2016 to March 2020);

AND WHEREAS other countries have significantly reduced drug-related fatalities with reforms such as legal regulation of illicit drugs to ensure safe supply and decriminalization for personal use;

AND WHEREAS the federal government has indicated it is premature to discuss these measures until there are comprehensive supports for people to get well;

AND WHEREAS supports are needed, but measures that save lives are essential if people are to survive and access supports;

AND WHEREAS the Canadian Association of Chiefs of Police has stated that they agree the evidence suggests "decriminalization for simple possession as an effective way to reduce the public health and public safety harms associated with substance use";

AND WHEREAS the overdose crisis rages, showing few signs of abating;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that Council:

a) request that the Government of Canada:

i) declare the overdose crisis a national public health; and

ii) immediately seek input from the people most affected by this crisis and meet with provinces and territories to develop a comprehensive, Pan-Canadian overdose action plan, which includes comprehensive supports and full consideration of reforms that other countries have used to significantly reduce drug-related fatalities and stigma.

On behalf of Council, thank you for your consideration of this request.

Sincerely,

Mayor Lyn Hall
City of Prince George

cc: All UBCM Member Local Governments
Todd Doherty, MP for Cariboo-Prince George
Bob Zimmer, MP for Prince George-Peace River-Northern Rockies

Ginny Gemmell

From: EP.RPY / SAR.PYR (EC) <ec.ep.rpy-sar.pyr.ec@canada.ca>
Sent: Thursday, March 18, 2021 9:47 AM
To: EP.RPY / SAR.PYR (EC)
Subject: Consultation on amending Schedule 1 of the Species at Risk Act
Attachments: ConsultationLetter_ProposedListings.pdf; B18_Part 1 Consultation Document.pdf; B18 _Part 2 Consultation Document.pdf; Slender Yoke Moss.pdf; Suckley's Cuckoo Bumble Bee.pdf; Western Harvest Mouse megalotis subspecies.pdf

Hello,

Please see the attached digital letter and information from the Canadian Wildlife Service regarding the proposed amendments to Schedule 1 (the List of Wildlife Species at Risk) of the *Species at Risk Act*.

Respectfully,
Regulatory Affairs Unit
Canadian Wildlife Service / Pacific Region
Environment and Climate Change Canada / Government of Canada
5421 Robertson Road, Delta, BC, V4K 3N2
ec.ep.rpy-sar.pyr.ec@canada.ca

Environment and Climate Change Canada Environnement et Changement climatique Canada

Canada

December 11, 2020

RE: Consultation on amending Schedule 1 of the *Species at Risk Act*

On September 2, 2020, the Committee on the Status of Endangered Wildlife in Canada (COSEWIC) submitted assessments of species at risk to the federal Minister of the Environment.

On December 2, 2020, the Government of Canada posted the Ministerial Response Statements for these species on the *Species at Risk Act* (SARA) Public Registry. The Government is now launching consultations on the potential amendment of Schedule 1, the List of Wildlife Species at Risk under SARA. The complete set of statements and the consultation path (normal or extended) for each species are available at: https://www.canada.ca/en/environment-climate-change/services/species-risk-act-accord-funding/listing-process/minister-environment-response-assessments-2020.html.

Environment and Climate Change Canada is seeking comments on the proposed amendment of Schedule 1 resulting from assessments of 12 terrestrial species. Three of the species included in this national consultation are found in British Columbia (BC) and are listed below.

Suckley's Cuckoo Bumble Bee: Proposed new listing as Threatened

- A medium sized bumble bee that is found throughout BC

Western Harvest Mouse *megalotis* subspecies: Proposed reclassification from Special Concern to Endangered

- A mouse found in the Okanagan and Similkameen Valleys of BC

Slender Yolk-moss: Proposed new listing as Endangered

- A moss known from one site on Haida Gwaii

Fisheries and Oceans Canada will conduct consultations for aquatic species eligible for addition to the list. Where authorized by a land claims agreement to perform functions in respect of an aquatic wildlife species, Environment and Climate Change Canada and Fisheries and Oceans Canada will consult the wildlife management board.

Additional information on the listing and consultation processes for terrestrial species is available in "Consultation on Amending the List of Species under the *Species at Risk Act* -Terrestrial Species". This document also includes a questionnaire that provides you guidance on the types of information and comments Environment and Climate Change Canada is seeking. It is posted on the SARA Public Registry at: https://species-registry.canada.ca/index-en.html#/documents/1823.

You are invited to submit comments on the potential impacts of amending the List of Wildlife Species at Risk according to these COSEWIC status assessments. Your comments will be considered and will inform the Minister's recommendation to Cabinet. Please provide comments by **April 2, 2021** for species under a normal consultation process and by **September 2, 2021** for species following an extended consultation process. The Suckley's Cuckoo Bumble Bee and Western Harvest Mouse *megalotis* subspecies will follow

an extended consultation process. There will also be an opportunity to provide comments during the 30-day public consultation period associated with pre-publication in *Canada Gazette* Part I. More detailed information on individual species is included in the COSEWIC status reports available on the SARA Public Registry.

We encourage you to submit your comments to the SARA Public Registry at ec.registrelep-sararegistry.ec@canada.ca, or by answering the online questionnaire included in Part 2 of the Consultation Document, and which can also be accessed at https://species-registry.canada.ca/index-en.html#/consultations/1823. ECCC is available for a phone discussion, teleconference or videoconference to discuss this proposal further (whenever feasible). You are also welcome to contact our regional office with any questions:

Regulatory Affairs
Canadian Wildlife Service / Pacific Region
Environment and Climate Change Canada
5421 Robertson Rd, RR1
Delta, BC V4K 3N2
ec.ep.rpy-sar.pyr.ec@canada.ca

Respectfully,

Randal Lake
Head, Regulatory Affairs Unit
Canadian Wildlife Service, Pacific Region
Environment and Climate Change Canada
5421 Robertson Rd, RR1
Delta, BC V4K 3N2

CONSULTATION ON AMENDING THE LIST OF SPECIES UNDER THE *SPECIES AT RISK ACT*

Terrestrial Species

Environment and Climate Change Canada
Environnement et Changement climatique Canada

Canada

Nº de cat. : En1-36E-PDF
ISBN : 1713-0948

Unless otherwise specified, you may not reproduce materials in this publication, in whole or in part, for the purposes of commercial redistribution without prior written permission from Environment and Climate Change Canada's copyright administrator. To obtain permission to reproduce Government of Canada materials for commercial purposes, apply for Crown Copyright Clearance by contacting:

Environment and Climate Change Canada
Public Inquiries Centre
12th Floor, Fontaine Building
200 Sacré-Coeur Boulevard
Gatineau QC K1A 0H3
Telephone: 819-938-3860
Toll Free: 1-800-668-6767 (in Canada only)
Email: ec.enviroinfo.ec@canada.ca

Photos :
Dwarf Hesperochiron © Ryan Batten
Hudsonian Godwit © Cameron Eckert
American Bubble Bee © Victoria MacPhail

© Her Majesty the Queen in Right of Canada, represented by the Minister of Environment and Climate Change Canada, 2020

Aussi disponible en français

TABLE OF CONTENT

ADDITION OF SPECIES TO THE SPECIES AT RISK ACT 1

The *Species at Risk Act* and the List of Wildlife Species at Risk 1
COSEWIC and the assessment process for identifying species at risk 1
Terms used to define the degree of risk to a species 2
Terrestrial and aquatic species eligible for Schedule 1 amendments 2
The Minister of Environment and Climate Change's response to the COSEWIC assessment: the response statement 2
Comments solicited on the proposed amendment of Schedule 1 2

THE SPECIES AT RISK ACT LISTING PROCESS AND CONSULTATION 3
The purpose of consultations on amendments to the List 3
Legislative context of the consultations: the Minister's recommendation to the Governor in Council 3
Normal and extended consultation periods 3
FIGURE 1: The species listing process under SARA 5
Who is consulted, and how 6
Role and impact of public consultations in the listing process 6

SIGNIFICANCE OF THE ADDITION OF A SPECIES TO SCHEDULE 1 7
Protection for listed Extirpated, Endangered and Threatened species 7
Recovery strategies and action plans for Extirpated, Endangered and Threatened species 8
Permits and agreements 8
Protection for listed species of Special Concern 9
Management plans for species of Special Concern 9
Providing comments 9

GLOSSARY 10

ADDITION OF SPECIES TO THE SPECIES AT RISK ACT

THE *SPECIES AT RISK ACT* AND THE LIST OF WILDLIFE SPECIES AT RISK

The Government of Canada is committed to preventing the disappearance of wildlife species at risk from our lands. As part of its strategy for realizing that commitment, on June 5, 2003, the Government of Canada proclaimed the *Species at Risk Act* (SARA). Attached to the Act is Schedule 1, the list of the species provided for under SARA, also called the List of Wildlife Species at Risk. Extirpated, Endangered and Threatened species on Schedule 1 benefit from the protection afforded by the prohibitions and from recovery planning requirements under SARA. Special Concern species benefit from its management planning requirements.

The policy "Timeline for amendments to Schedule 1 of the Species at Risk Act" has set standardized timelines for listing decisions. These new timelines mean that the Minister will seek to have the final decision made within 24 months. The 24 months begin with the date that the Minister receives a species' status assessment from COSEWIC. This date is published in the response statement for each species. The Minister's receives the COSEWIC Annual Report at the same time.

The response statement can be found on the SAR Registry, on the species' page, in the documents section. The Timeline for amendments to Schedule 1 of the Species at Risk Act policy can be viewed on the SAR Public Registry at: https://wildlife-species.canada.ca/species-risk-registry/document/default_e.cfm?documentID=3203 and the COSEWIC Annual Report can be viewed at: https://www.canada.ca/en/environment-climate-change/services/committee-status-endangered-wildlife.html.

The complete list of species currently on Schedule 1 can be viewed on the SAR Public Registry at: https://laws-lois.justice.gc.ca/eng/acts/s-15.3/page-17.html#h-435647.

Species become eligible for addition to Schedule 1 once they have been assessed as being at risk by the Committee on the Status of Endangered Wildlife in Canada (COSEWIC). The decision to add a species to Schedule 1 is made by the Governor in Council further to a recommendation from the Minister of Environment and Climate Change. The Governor in Council is the formal executive body that gives legal effect to decisions that then have the force of law.

COSEWIC AND THE ASSESSMENT PROCESS FOR IDENTIFYING SPECIES AT RISK

COSEWIC is recognized under SARA as the authority for assessing the status of wildlife species at risk. COSEWIC comprises experts on wildlife species at risk. Its members have backgrounds in the fields of biology, ecology, genetics, Indigenous traditional knowledge and other relevant fields. They come from various communities, including academia, Indigenous organizations, governments and non-governmental organizations.

COSEWIC gives priority to those species more likely to become extinct, and then commissions a status report for the evaluation of the species' status. To be accepted, status reports must be peer-reviewed and approved by a subcommittee

of species specialists. In special circumstances, assessments can be done on an emergency basis. When the status report is complete, COSEWIC meets to examine it and discuss the species. COSEWIC then determines whether the species is at risk, and, if so, it then assesses the level of risk and assigns a conservation status.

TERMS USED TO DEFINE THE DEGREE OF RISK TO A SPECIES

The conservation status defines the degree of risk to a species. The terms used under SARA are Extirpated, Endangered, Threatened and Special Concern. Extirpated species are wildlife species that no longer occur in the wild in Canada but still exist elsewhere. Endangered species are wildlife species that are likely to soon become Extirpated or Extinct. Threatened species are likely to become Endangered if nothing is done to reverse the factors leading to their extirpation or extinction. The term Special Concern is used for wildlife species that may become Threatened or Endangered due to a combination of biological characteristics and threats. Once COSEWIC has assessed a species as Extirpated, Endangered, Threatened or Special Concern, it is eligible for inclusion on Schedule 1.

For more information on COSEWIC, visit the COSEWIC website at: www.canada.ca/en/environment-climate-change/services/committee-status-endangered-wildlife.html.

TERRESTRIAL AND AQUATIC SPECIES ELIGIBLE FOR SCHEDULE 1 AMENDMENTS

The Minister of Fisheries and Oceans conducts separate consultations for the aquatic species. For more information on the consultations for aquatic species, visit the Fisheries and Oceans Canada website at www.dfo-mpo.gc.ca.

The Minister of Environment and Climate Change is conducting the consultations for all other species at risk.

Species at risk also occur in national parks or other lands administered by Parks Canada; Parks Canada shares responsibility for these species with Environment and Climate Change Canada.

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND CLIMATE CHANGE'S RESPONSE TO THE COSEWIC ASSESSMENT: THE RESPONSE STATEMENT

After COSEWIC has completed its assessment of a species, it provides it to the Minister of Environment and Climate Change. The Minister of Environment and Climate Change then has 90 days to post a response on the Species at Risk Public Registry, known as the response statement. The response statement provides information on the scope of any consultations and the timelines for action, to the extent possible. It identifies how long the consultations will be (whether they are "normal" or "extended") by stating when the Minister will forward the assessment to the Governor in Council. Consultations for a group of species are launched with the posting of their response statements.

COMMENTS SOLICITED ON THE PROPOSED AMENDMENT OF SCHEDULE 1

The conservation of wildlife is a joint legal responsibility: one that is shared among the governments of Canada. But biodiversity will not be conserved by governments that act alone. The best way to secure the survival of species at risk and their habitats is through the active participation of all those concerned. SARA recognizes this, and that all Indigenous peoples and Canadians have a role to play in preventing the disappearance of wildlife species from our lands. The Government of Canada is inviting and encouraging you to become involved. One way that you can do so is by sharing your comments concerning the addition or reclassification of these terrestrial species.

Your comments are considered in relation to the potential consequences of whether or not a species is included on Schedule 1, and they are then used to inform the drafting of the Minister's proposed listing recommendations for each of these species.

THE SPECIES AT RISK ACT LISTING PROCESS AND CONSULTATION

The addition of a wildlife species at risk to Schedule 1 of SARA facilitates providing for its protection and conservation. To be effective, the listing process must be transparent and open. The species listing process under SARA is summarized in Figure 1.

THE PURPOSE OF CONSULTATIONS ON AMENDMENTS TO THE LIST

When COSEWIC assesses a wildlife species, it does so solely on the basis of the best available information relevant to the biological status of the species. COSEWIC then submits the assessment to the Minister of Environment and Climate Change, who considers it when making the listing recommendation to the Governor in Council. The purpose of these consultations is to provide the Minister with a better understanding of the potential social and economic impacts of the proposed change to the List of Wildlife Species at Risk, and of the potential consequences of not adding a species to the List.

LEGISLATIVE CONTEXT OF THE CONSULTATIONS: THE MINISTER'S RECOMMENDATION TO THE GOVERNOR IN COUNCIL

The comments collected during the consultations inform the Governor in Council's consideration of the Minister's recommendations for listing species at risk. The Minister must recommend one of three courses of action. These are for the Governor in Council to accept the species assessment and modify Schedule 1 accordingly, not to add the species to Schedule 1, or to refer the species assessment back to COSEWIC for its further consideration (Figure 1).

NORMAL AND EXTENDED CONSULTATION PERIODS

Normal consultations meet the consultation needs for the listing of most species at risk. The consultations last between four and nine months (known respectively as normal and extended consultation paths). Longer consultations may be needed to ensure appropriate consultations. The reasons more time may be needed include, but are not limited to, ensuring appropriate engagement with Indigenous Peoples and complex socioeconomic analyses. Consultations are also required with wildlife management boards, which are authorized under land claims agreements for functions involving a wildlife species.

The extent of consultations needs to be proportional to the expected impact of a listing decision and the time that may be needed to consult. Under some circumstances, whether or not a species will be included on Schedule 1 could have significant and widespread impacts on the activities of some groups of people. It is essential that such stakeholders have the opportunity to inform the pending decision and, to the extent possible, to provide input on its potential consequences and to share ideas on how best to approach threats to the species. A longer period may also be required to consult appropriately with some groups. For example, consultations can take longer for groups that meet infrequently but that must be engaged on several occasions. For such reasons, extended consultations may be undertaken.

Occasionally, for reasons such as these, the timelines initially set out in the response statement may not be adequate. In such cases, if Governor in

Council does not receive the assessment at the time specified in the response statement, within one month another statement is to be published on the Registry describing. It will describe the reason(s) for the delay and set out next steps.

For both normal and extended consultations, once they are complete, the Minister of Environment and Climate Change forwards the species assessments to the Governor in Council for the government's formal receipt of the assessment. The Governor in Council then has nine months to come to a listing decision.

The consultation paths (normal or extended) for the terrestrial species eligible for an Amendment to Schedule 1" are announced when the Minister publishes the response statements.

No consultations are undertaken for species already on Schedule 1 and for which no change in status is being proposed.

FIGURE 1: THE SPECIES LISTING PROCESS UNDER SARA

1	The Minister of Environment and Climate Change receives species assessments from COSEWIC at least once per year.
2	The competent departments undertake internal review to determine the extent of public consultation and socio-economic analysis necessary to inform the listing decision.
3	Within 90 days of receipt of the species assessments prepared by COSEWIC, the Minister of Environment and Climate Change publishes a response statement on the SARA Public Registry that indicates how he or she intends to respond to the assessment and, to the extent possible, provides timelines for action.
4	Where appropriate, the competent departments undertake consultations and any other relevant analysis needed to prepare the advice for the Minister of Environment and Climate Change.
5	The Minister of Environment and Climate Change forwards the assessment to the Governor in Council for receipt. This generally occurs within twelve months of posting the response statement, unless further consultation is necessary.
6	Within nine months of receiving the assessment, the Governor in Council, on the recommendation of the Minister of Environment and Climate Changemay decide whether or not to list the species under Schedule 1 of SARA or refer the assessment back to COSEWIC for further information or consideration.
7	Once a species is added to Schedule 1, it benefits from the applicable provisions of SARA.

WHO IS CONSULTED, AND HOW

It is most important to consult with those who would be most affected by the proposed changes. There is protection that is immediately in place when a species that is Extirpated, Endangered or Threatened is added to Schedule 1 (for more details, see below, "Protection for listed Extirpated, Endangered and Threatened species"). This immediate protection does not apply to species of Special Concern. The nature of the protection depends on the type of species, its conservation status, and where the species is found. Environment and Climate Change Canada takes this into account during the consultations; those who may be affected by the impacts of the automatic protections are contacted directly, others are encouraged to contribute through a variety of approaches.

Indigenous peoples known to have species at risk on their lands, for which changes to Schedule 1 are being considered, will be contacted. Their engagement is of particular significance, acknowledging their role in the management of the extensive traditional territories and the reserve and settlement lands.

A Wildlife Management Board is a group that has been established under a land claims agreement and is authorized by the agreement to perform functions in respect of wildlife species. Some eligible species at risk are found on lands where existing land claims agreements apply that give specific authority to a Wildlife Management Board. In such cases, the Minister of Environment and Climate Change will consult with the relevant board.

To encourage others to contribute and make the necessary information readily available, this document is distributed to known stakeholders and posted on the Species at Risk Public Registry. More extensive consultations may also be done through regional or community meetings or through a more targeted approach.

Environment and Climate Change Canada also sends notice of the consultations to identified concerned groups and individuals who have made their interests known. These include, but are not limited to, industries, resource users, landowners and environmental non-governmental organizations.

In most cases, it is difficult for Environment and Climate Change Canada to fully examine the potential impacts of recovery actions when species are being considered for listing. Recovery actions for terrestrial species usually have not yet been comprehensively defined at the time of listing, so their impact cannot be fully understood. Once they are better understood, efforts are made to minimize adverse social and economic impacts of listing and to maximize the benefits. SARA requires that recovery measures be prepared in consultation with those considered to be directly affected by them.

In addition to the public, Environment and Climate Change Canada consults on listing with the governments of the provinces and territories with lead responsibility for the conservation and management of these wildlife species. Environment and Climate Change Canada also consults with other federal departments and agencies.

ROLE AND IMPACT OF PUBLIC CONSULTATIONS IN THE LISTING PROCESS

The results of the public consultations are of great significance to informing the process of listing species at risk. Environment and Climate Change Canada carefully reviews the comments it receives to gain a better understanding of the benefits and costs of changing the List.

The comments are then used to inform the Regulatory Impact Analysis Statement (RIAS). The RIAS is a report that summarizes the impact of a proposed regulatory change. It includes a description of the proposed change and an analysis of its expected impact, which takes into account the results of the public consultations. In developing the RIAS, the Government of Canada recognizes that Canada's natural heritage is an integral part of our national identity and history and that wildlife in all its forms has value in and of itself.

The Government of Canada also recognizes that the absence of full scientific certainty is not a reason to postpone decisions to protect the environment.

A draft Order is then prepared, providing notice that a decision is being taken by the Governor in Council. The draft Order proposing to list all or some of the species under consideration is then published, along with the RIAS, in the *Canada Gazette*, Part I, for a comment period of 30 days.

The Minister of Environment and Climate Change will take into consideration comments and any additional information received following publication of the draft Order and the RIAS in the *Canada Gazette*, Part I. The Minister then makes a final listing recommendation for each species to the Governor in Council. The Governor in Council next decides either to accept the species assessment and amend Schedule 1 accordingly; or not to add the species to Schedule 1; or to refer the species assessment back to COSEWIC for further information or consideration. The final decision is published in the *Canada Gazette*, Part II, and on the Species at Risk Public Registry. If the Governor in Council decides to list a species, it is at this point that it becomes legally included on Schedule 1.

SIGNIFICANCE OF THE ADDITION OF A SPECIES TO SCHEDULE 1

The protection that comes into effect following the addition of a species to Schedule 1 depends upon a number of factors. These include the species' status under SARA, the type of species and where it occurs.

PROTECTION FOR LISTED EXTIRPATED, ENDANGERED AND THREATENED SPECIES

Responsibility for the conservation of wildlife is shared among the governments of Canada. SARA establishes legal protection for individuals as soon as a species is listed as Threatened, Endangered or Extirpated, and, in the case of Threatened and Endangered species, for their residences. This applies to species considered federal species or if they are found on federal land.

Federal species include migratory birds, as defined by the *Migratory Birds Convention Act, 1994*, and aquatic species covered by the *Fisheries Act*. Federal land means land that belongs to the federal government, and the internal waters and territorial sea of Canada. It also means land set apart for the use and benefit of a band under the *Indian Act* (such as reserves). In the territories, the protection for species at risk on federal lands applies only where they are on lands under the authority of the Minister of Environment and Climate Change or the Parks Canada Agency.

Migratory birds are protected by the *Migratory Birds Regulations*, under the *Migratory Birds Convention Act, 1994*, which strictly prohibits the harming of migratory birds and the disturbance or destruction of their nests and eggs. For more information, please refer to the Regulations for the complete list of prohibitions: https://laws-lois.justice.gc.ca/eng/regulations/C.R.C.%2C_c._1035/index.html.

SARA's protection for individuals makes it an offence to kill, harm, harass, capture or take an individual of a species listed as Extirpated, Endangered or Threatened. It is also an offence to damage or destroy the residence of one or more individuals of an Endangered or Threatened species or an Extirpated species whose

reintroduction has been recommended by a recovery strategy. The Act also makes it an offence to possess, collect, buy, sell or trade an individual of a species that is Extirpated, Endangered or Threatened.

Species at risk that are neither aquatic nor protected under the *Migratory Birds Convention Act, 1994*, nor on federal lands, do not receive immediate protection upon listing under SARA. Instead, in most cases, the protection of terrestrial species on non-federal lands is the responsibility of the provinces and territories where they are found. The application of protections under SARA to a species at risk on non-federal lands requires that the Governor in Council make an order defining those lands. This can only occur when the Minister is of the opinion that the laws of the province or territory do not effectively protect the species. To put such an order in place, the Minister would then need to recommend the order be made to the Governor in Council. If the Governor in Council agrees to make the order, the prohibitions of SARA would then apply to the provincial or territorial lands specified by the order. The federal government would consult before making such an order.

RECOVERY STRATEGIES AND ACTION PLANS FOR EXTIRPATED, ENDANGERED AND THREATENED SPECIES

Recovery planning results in the development of recovery strategies and action plans for Extirpated, Endangered or Threatened species. It involves the different levels of government responsible for the management of the species, depending on what type of species it is and where it occurs. These include federal, provincial and territorial governments as well as Wildlife Management Boards. Recovery strategies and action plans are also prepared in cooperation with directly affected Indigenous organizations. Landowners and other stakeholders directly affected by the recovery strategy are consulted to the extent possible.

Recovery strategies must be prepared for all Extirpated, Endangered and Threatened species. They include measures to mitigate the known threats to the species and its habitat and set the population and distribution objectives. Other objectives can be included, such as stewardship, to conserve the species, or education, to increase public awareness. Recovery strategies must include a statement of the time frame for the development of one or more action plans that will state the measures necessary to implement the recovery strategy. To the extent possible, recovery strategies must also identify the critical habitat of the species, which is the habitat necessary for the survival or recovery of the species. If there is not enough information available to identify critical habitat, the recovery strategy includes a schedule of studies required for its identification. This schedule outlines what must be done to obtain the necessary information and by when it needs to be done. In such cases, critical habitat can be identified in a subsequent action plan.

Proposed recovery strategies for newly listed species are posted on the Species at Risk Public Registry to provide for public review and comment. For Endangered species, proposed recovery strategies are posted within one year of their addition to Schedule 1, and for Threatened or Extirpated species, within two years.

Once a recovery strategy has been posted as final, one or more action plans based on the recovery strategy must then be prepared. These include measures to address threats and achieve the population and distribution objectives. Action plans also complete the identification of the critical habitat where necessary and, to the extent possible, state measures that are proposed to protect it.

PERMITS AND AGREEMENTS

For terrestrial species listed on SARA Schedule 1 as Extirpated, Endangered or Threatened, the Minister of Environment and Climate Change may authorize exceptions to the Act's prohibitions,

when and where they apply. The Minister can enter into agreements or issue permits only for one of three purposes: for research, for conservation activities, or if the effects to the species are incidental to the activity. Research must relate to the conservation of a species and be conducted by qualified scientists. Conservation activities must benefit a listed species or be required to enhance its chances of survival. All activities, including those that incidentally affect a listed species, its individuals, residences or critical habitat must also meet certain conditions. First, it must be established that all reasonable alternatives to the activity have been considered and the best solution has been adopted. Second, it must also be established that all feasible measures will be taken to minimize the impact of the activity on the listed species. Finally, it must be established that the activity will not jeopardize the survival or recovery of the species. Having issued a permit or agreement, the Minister must then include an explanation on the Species at Risk Public Registry of why the permit or agreement was issued.

PROTECTION FOR LISTED SPECIES OF SPECIAL CONCERN

While immediate protection under SARA for species listed as Extirpated, Endangered and Threatened does not apply to species listed as Special Concern, any existing protections and prohibitions, such as those provided by the *Migratory Birds Convention Act, 1994* or the *Canada National Parks Act*, continue to be in force.

MANAGEMENT PLANS FOR SPECIES OF SPECIAL CONCERN

For species of Special Concern, management plans are to be prepared and made available on the Species at Risk Public Registry within three years of a species' addition to Schedule 1, allowing for public review and comment. Management plans include appropriate conservation measures for the species and for its habitat. They are prepared in cooperation with the jurisdictions responsible for the management of the species, including directly affected Wildlife Management Boards and Indigenous organizations. Landowners, lessees and others directly affected by a management plan will also be consulted to the extent possible.

PROVIDING COMMENTS

The involvement of Canadians is integral to the listing process, as it is to the ultimate protection of Canadian wildlife. Your comments matter and are given serious consideration. ECCC will review all the comments that it receives by the deadlines provided in consultation materials.

For any information on the *Species at Risk Act*, please visit the Species at Risk Public Registry at: www.canada.ca/en/environment-climate-change/services/species-risk-public-registry.html.

GLOSSARY

Aquatic species: A wildlife species that is a fish as defined in section 2 of the Fisheries Act or a marine plant as defined in section 47 of the Act. The term includes marine mammals.

Canada Gazette: The *Canada Gazette* is one of the vehicles that Canadians can use to access laws and regulations. It has been the "official newspaper" of the Government of Canada since 1841. Government departments and agencies as well as the private sector are required by law to publish certain information in the *Canada Gazette*. Notices and proposed regulations are published in the *Canada Gazette*, Part I, and official regulations are published in the *Canada Gazette*, Part II. For more information, please visit http://gazetteducanada.gc.ca.

Canadian Endangered Species Conservation Council: The Council is made up of federal, provincial and territorial ministers with responsibilities for wildlife species. The Council's mandate is to provide national leadership and coordination for the protection of species at risk.

COSEWIC: The Committee on the Status of Endangered Wildlife in Canada. The Committee comprises experts on wildlife species at risk. Their backgrounds are in the fields of biology, ecology, genetics, Indigenous traditional knowledge and other relevant fields. These experts come from various communities, including, among others, government and academia.

COSEWIC assessment: COSEWIC's assessment or re-assessment of the status of a wildlife species, based on a status report on the species that COSEWIC either has had prepared or has received with an application.

Down-listing: A revision of the status of a species on Schedule 1 to a status of lower risk. A revision of the status of a Schedule 1 species to a higher risk status would be up-listing.

Federal land: Any land owned by the federal government, the internal waters and territorial sea of Canada, and reserves and other land set apart for the use and benefit of a band under the *Indian Act*.

Governor in Council: The Governor General of Canada acting on the advice of the Queen's Privy Council for Canada, the formal executive body that gives legal effect to those decisions of Cabinet that are to have the force of law.

Individual: An individual of a wildlife species, whether living or dead, at any developmental stage, and includes larvae, embryos, eggs, sperm, seeds, pollen, spores and asexual propagules.

Order: An order issued by the Governor in Council, either on the basis of authority delegated by legislation or by virtue of the prerogative powers of the Crown.

Response statement: A document in which the Minister of Environment and Climate Change indicates how he or she intends to respond to the COSEWIC assessment of a wildlife species. A response statement is posted on the Species at Risk Public Registry within 90 days of receipt of the assessment by the Minister, and provides timelines for action to the extent possible.

RIAS: Regulatory Impact Analysis Statement. A document that provides an analysis of the expected impact of a regulatory initiative and which accompanies an Order in Council.

Species at Risk Public Registry: Developed as an online service, the Species at Risk Public Registry has been accessible to the public since proclamation of the *Species at Risk Act* (SARA). The website gives users easy access to documents and information related to SARA at any time and location with Internet access. It can be found at www.canada.ca/en/environment-climate-change/services/species-risk-public-registry.html.

Schedule 1: A schedule of SARA, also known as the List of Wildlife Species at Risk, which presents the list of species protected under SARA.

Up-listing: A revision of the status of a species on Schedule 1 to a status of higher risk. A revision of the status of a Schedule 1 species to a lower risk status would be down-listing.

Wildlife Management Board: Established under the land claims agreements in northern Quebec, Newfoundland and Labrador, Yukon, Northwest Territories, British Columbia, and Nunavut, Wildlife Management Boards are the "main instruments of wildlife management" within their settlement areas. In this role, Wildlife Management Boards not only establish, modify and remove levels of total allowable harvest of a variety of wildlife species, but also participate in research activities, including annual harvest studies, and approve the designation of species at risk in their settlement areas.

Wildlife Species: Under SARA, a species, subspecies, variety, or geographically or genetically distinct population of animal, plant or other organism, other than a bacterium or virus. To be eligible for inclusion under SARA, a wildlife species must be wild by nature and native to Canada. Non-native species that have been here for 50 years or more can be considered eligible if they came without human intervention.

Environment and Climate Change Canada | Environnement et Changement climatique Canada

Canada

Part 2: The List of Species Eligible for an Amendment to Schedule 1

Environment and Climate Change Canada | Environnement et Changement climatique Canada

Canada

Table of Contents

THE LIST OF SPECIES ELIGIBLE FOR AN AMENDMENT TO SCHEDULE 1 3
Status of the recently assessed species and consultation paths 3
Questions to guide your comments 3
Providing comments 5
Table 1: Terrestrial species recently assessed by COSEWIC eligible for addition 6
to Schedule 1 or reclassification 6
Table 2: Terrestrial species recently reassessed by COSEWIC (no consultations- 7
species status confirmation) 7
THE COSEWIC SUMMARIES OF TERRESTRIAL SPECIES ELIGIBLE FOR ADDITION OR RECLASSIFICATION ON SCHEDULE 1 8

Environment and Climate Change Canada | Environnement et Changement climatique Canada

Canada

THE LIST OF SPECIES ELIGIBLE FOR AN AMENDMENT TO SCHEDULE 1

Status of the recently assessed species and consultation paths

On **September 2, 2020**, COSEWIC submitted 13 assessments of species at risk to the Minister of Environment and Climate Change for species that are eligible to be added to Schedule 1 of SARA. Ten of these are terrestrial species, and three are aquatic species. COSEWIC also reviewed the classification of species already on Schedule 1, in some cases changing their status. Two terrestrial species are now being considered for a higher risk status on SARA. In all, 12 terrestrial species that are eligible to be added to Schedule 1, or to have their current status on Schedule 1 changed are included in this consultation (Table 1).

COSEWIC also submitted the reviews of species already on Schedule 1, confirming their classification. Two of these reviews were for terrestrial species. These species are not included in the consultations because there is no regulatory change being proposed (Table 2).

For more information on the consultations for aquatic species, visit the Fisheries and Oceans Canada website at www.dfo-mpo.gc.ca.

Questions to guide your comments

The following questions are intended to assist you in providing comments on the proposed amendments to the List of Wildlife Species at Risk (refer to the document entitled "The List of Species Eligible for an Amendment to Schedule 1" for the list of species under consultation). They are not limiting, and any other comments you may have are welcome. We also encourage you to share descriptions and estimates of costs or benefits to you or your organization where possible, as well as to propose actions that could be taken for the conservation of these species.

Respondent information

1) Are you responding as

   a) an individual, or

   b) representing a community, business or organization (please specify)?

Species benefits to people or to the ecosystem

2) Do any or all of the species provide benefits to you or Canada's ecosystems? If so, please describe these benefits. If possible, please provide a monetary or quantitative estimate of their values to you.

   For example:

   - Do any or all of the species provide benefits by supporting your livelihood, for example, through harvesting, subsistence or medicine? If yes, can you estimate the extent of these benefits, for example, how often the harvest takes place, the quantity harvested, and the uses of the harvested species (e.g., medicine, food, clothes, etc.)?
   - Do any or all of the species provide cultural or spiritual benefits, for example, recreation, sense of place or tradition? If yes, how?
   - Do any or all of the species provide environmental benefits, for example, pollination, pest control or flood control? If yes, how?

Environment and Climate Change Canada | Environnement et Changement climatique Canada

Canada

Impacts of species listing on your activities and the ecosystem

3) Based on what you know about SARA and the information presented in this document, do you think that amending the List of Wildlife Species at Risk with the proposed listing (Table 1) would have:
   a) no impact on your activities or the species;
   b) a positive impact on your activities or the species; or
   c) a negative impact on your activities or the species.

Please explain your choice above, specifically:

4) Do you think that listing the species would result in cultural, social, or economic costs or benefits to you, your community or your organization?
5) Do you think that listing the species would result in any costs or benefits to the environment or Canada's ecosystems?
6) Based on the maps provided in the species summary document, do any of your current or planned activities overlap with any of the species ranges or occurrences?
7) Are you aware of any current or planned activities (e.g., land conversion for natural resource, industrial, commercial, or residential development) that may have the potential to kill, harm, or harass the species and/or destroy any part of its habitat?
   - If yes, what are these activities, how could they have the potential to affect the species, and/or destroy any part of its habitat?
   - If yes, could you please explain what is being done, planned to be done, or could be done to avoid killing, harming, or harassing the species, or destroying its habitat? Would you also please describe what implications and/or costs may be involved (qualitative or quantitative). Would you personally have to adjust or cease any activities?

Additional information for small businesses

If you are responding for a **small business**, please provide the following details to help Environment and Climate Change Canada gather information to contribute to the required Small Business Lens analysis that forms part of the Regulatory Impact Analysis Statement that will accompany any future listing recommendation.

1. Are you an enterprise that operates in Canada?
2. Do you engage in commercial activities related to the supply of services or property (which includes goods)?
3. Are you an organization that engages in activities for a public purpose (e.g., social welfare or civic improvement), such as a provincial or municipal government, school, college/university, hospital or charity?
4. Is your enterprise owned by a First Nations community?
5. How many employees do you have?
   a) 0–99
   b) 100 or more
6. What was your annual gross revenue in the last year?
   a) Less than $30,000
   b) Between $30,000 and $5 million
   c) More than $5 million

Environment and Climate Change Canada | Environnement et Changement climatique Canada

Canada

Providing comments

The involvement of Canadians is integral to the listing process, as it is to the ultimate protection of Canadian wildlife. Your comments matter and are given serious consideration. Environment and Climate Change Canada will review all the comments that it receives by the deadlines provided below.

Comments for terrestrial species undergoing normal consultations must be received by **April 2, 2021.**

Comments for terrestrial species undergoing extended consultations must be received by **September 2, 2021**.

Most species will be undergoing normal consultations. For a description of the consultation paths these species will undergo, please visit the Species at Risk (SAR) Public Registry website at: https://www.canada.ca/en/environment-climate-change/services/species-risk-act-accord-funding/listing-process/minister-environment-response-assessments-2020.html

For more details on submitting comments, see the section "Comments solicited on the proposed amendment of Schedule 1" in the document entitled "Consultation on Amending the List of Species under the *Species at Risk Act*: Terrestrial Species".

Please email your comments to the Species at Risk Public Registry at: ec.registrelep-sararegistry.ec@canada.ca

Comments may also be mailed to:

Director General, Wildlife Management
Canadian Wildlife Service
Environment and Climate Change Canada
Gatineau QC K1A 0H3

Or you can give your comments by answering the online questionnaire at: https://form.simplesondage.com/f/l/December2020

For more information on the *Species at Risk Act*, please visit the Species at Risk Public Registry at: https://www.canada.ca/en/environment-climate-change/services/species-risk-public-registry.html

Environment and Climate Change Canada | Environnement et Changement climatique Canada

Canada

Table 1: Terrestrial species recently assessed by COSEWIC eligible for addition to Schedule 1 or reclassification

Taxon	Species	Scientific Name	Range
Species eligible for addition to Schedule 1 (10)			
Endangered (5)			
Arthropods	Reversed Haploa Moth	*Haploa reversa*	ON
Molluscs	Shagreen	*Inflectarius inflectus*	ON
Molluscs	Toothed Globe	*Mesodon zaletus*	ON
Mosses	Slender Yoke–moss	*Zygodon gracilis*	BC
Vascular Plants	Gillman's Goldenrod	*Solidago gillmanii*	ON
Threatened (2)			
Arthropods	Suckley's Cuckoo Bumble Bee	*Bombus suckleyi*	YT NT BC AB SK MB ON QC NB PE NS NL
Molluscs	Carolina Mantleslug	*Philomycus carolinianus*	ON
Special Concern (3)			
Arthropods	Manitoba Oakworm Moth	*Anisota manitobensis*	MB
Reptiles	Plains Hog–nosed Snake	*Heterodon nasicus*	AB SK MB
Vascular Plants	Puvirnituq Mountain Draba	*Draba puvirnituqii*	QC
Reclassifications: Up-list (2)			
From Threatened to Endangered (1)			
Birds	Chestnut–collared Longspur	*Calcarius ornatus*	AB SK MB
From Special Concern to Endangered (1)			
Mammals	Western Harvest Mouse *megalotis* subspecies	*Reithrodontomys megalotis megalotis*	BC

Environment and Climate Change Canada | Environnement et Changement climatique Canada

Canada

Table 2: Terrestrial species recently reassessed by COSEWIC (no consultations-species status confirmation)

Taxon	Species	Scientific Name	Range
Status Confirmations (2)			
Endangered (1)			
Mammals	Western Harvest Mouse *dychei* subspecies	*Reithrodontomys megalotis dychei*	AB
Threatened (1)			
Amphibians	Great Basin Spadefoot	*Spea intermontana*	BC

THE COSEWIC SUMMARIES OF TERRESTRIAL SPECIES ELIGIBLE FOR ADDITION OR RECLASSIFICATION ON SCHEDULE 1

For a brief summary of the reasons for the COSEWIC status designation of individual species, and their biology, threats, distribution and other information, please consult the COSEWIC Summaries of Terrestrial Species Eligible for Addition or Reclassification on Schedule 1 at:

https://species-registry.canada.ca/index-en.html#/consultations/1823

For a more comprehensive explanation of the conservation status of an individual species, please refer to the COSEWIC status report for that species, also available on the SAR Public Registry at:

https://wildlife-species.canada.ca/species-risk-registry/sar/assessment/status_e.cfm

or contact:

COSEWIC Secretariat
c/o Canadian Wildlife Service
Environment and Climate Change Canada
Gatineau QC K1A 0H3

Environment and Climate Change Canada | Environnement et Changement climatique Canada

Canada

Slender Yoke-moss

Photo: © Wynne Miles

Scientific name
Zygodon gracilis

Taxon
Mosses

COSEWIC status
Endangered

Canadian range
British Columbia

Reason for designation

In North America, this moss is confined to a single location on Haida Gwaii, British Columbia. The extremely small population occurs on a one square-metre patch of limestone cliff face near the ocean. Imminent threats to the species are the proliferation of young, dense woody vegetation adjacent to the cliff, exerting both direct (increased shade and moisture) and indirect (overgrowth by cyanobacteria) effects on the population. Other important threats include altered precipitation patterns, droughts and temperature extremes associated with climate change, quarrying of the high-quality Sadler limestone on which the species grows, and stochastic events such as inundation by tsunamis.

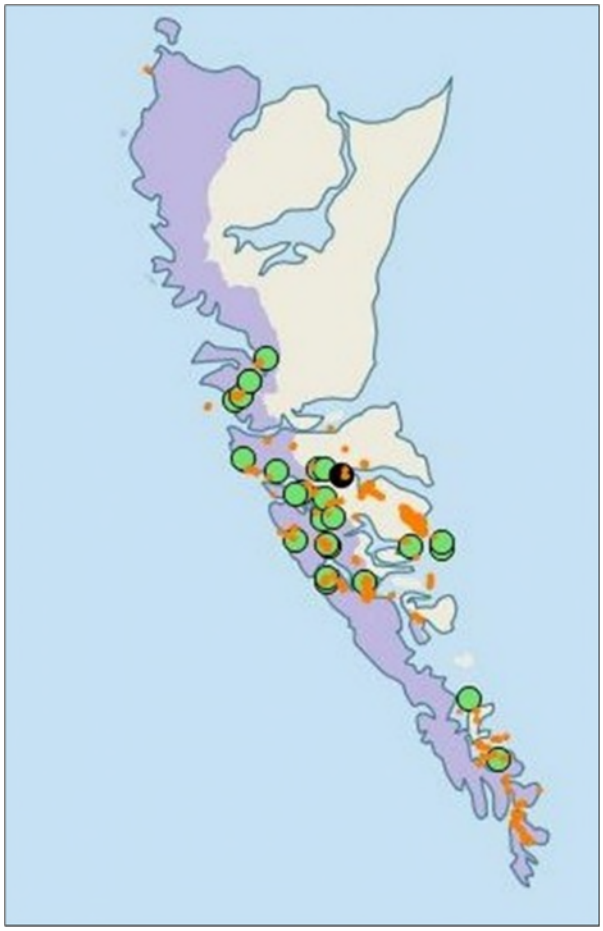
Wildlife Species Description and Significance

Slender Yoke-moss (Zygodon gracilis) is a small to medium-sized, yellowish- to brownish-green moss that grows on dry vertical rock surfaces. The lanceolate to oblong-lanceolate leaves are spreading and recurved (bent backward) when wet and contorted and incurved when dry. The leaf margins are sharply toothed near the leaf apex and untoothed near the base. The prominent costa or “midrib” of the leaf extends to the leaf apex or just beyond. Spore-producing capsules have not been observed in Canada and have seldom been seen elsewhere.

The species is significant for its global rarity. The Canadian population is thought to have persisted in a coastal refugium during the last glaciation.

Distribution

Slender Yoke-moss is extremely rare. Its pattern of distribution has been characterized as “Western European-Western North American”. In North America the species is known from a single location on Moresby Island on the archipelago of Haida Gwaii (formerly known as the Queen Charlotte Islands) in British Columbia, Canada. Elsewhere it has been collected from one location in northern England, one in Poland, a few in the Alps (Austria, France, Germany, Italy, and Switzerland) and a few in the western Carpathian Mountains (Poland, Romania, and Slovakia).



Canadian distribution of Slender Yoke-moss (Zygodon gracilis) (black dot), collection sites on limestone (green dots) and Sadler Limestone (orange), the only type of limestone with very high calcium carbonate (CaCO3) content on the archipelago.

Source: COSEWIC. 2019. COSEWIC assessment and status report on the Slender Yoke-moss Zygodon gracilis in Canada. Committee on the Status of Endangered Wildlife in Canada. Ottawa. xi + 28 pp.

.

Habitat

Slender Yoke-moss is a lithophyte (i.e., it grows only on rock). It typically colonizes dry limestone cliff faces in humid areas, but in England it occupies rock walls constructed of Carboniferous limestone.

Biology

Slender Yoke-moss has been observed in the same location for multiple decades in several countries. Male and female reproductive structures occur on separate plants, but sporophytes (spore-producing structures) have rarely been seen. Although specialized asexual reproductive structures have been induced in culture, they have not been found on plants in the wild. Therefore, it is unlikely that the Canadian population could increase by dispersal of spores. Rather, it persists through long-term clonal growth.

As a habitat-specialist occurring on dry vertical surfaces of very pure limestone in areas with high humidity, it is unlikely that Slender Yoke-moss could survive or successfully compete against other species if habitat conditions such as light, moisture, and air flow change.

Population Sizes and Trends

The population of Slender Yoke-moss in Canada consists of several small colonies (maximum 2 cm2) scattered in an area of <1 m2 on a vertical cliff face. The species was first discovered in 1961 and last observed 2018. The number of colonies was not documented in 1961, 1966, 1994, or when it was rediscovered in 2018. Based on the concept of 'an individual-equivalent', which has been adopted by the IUCN, the size of the population of Slender Yoke-moss is Canada is one, based on the single cliff face occupied by the species.

Threats and Limiting Factors

The most significant threats to Slender Yoke-moss are quarrying; impacts to the moss's habitat caused by young native trees; stochastic events like tsunamis; and the effects of climate change such as droughts and increased temperatures. The species could also be threatened by over-collecting for scientific study.

The main factors limiting Slender Yoke-moss are its apparent lack of reproduction; small populations throughout much of its range; a disjunct pattern of global distribution; and highly restricted habitat.

Protection, Status and Ranks

The global conservation status of Slender Yoke-moss is “Imperiled”. It has been identified as a candidate for the IUCN Red List of European Bryophytes based on the following conservation ranks (by country): Austria (“Risk Assumed”), Switzerland (“Vulnerable”), Germany (“Extremely Rare”), Great Britain, Italy, and Poland (“Endangered”), and Slovakia (“Critically Endangered”). The species is confirmed from France and present in Romania but its conservation status in those countries has not been assessed.

In Canada, Slender Yoke-moss has been designated as “Critically Imperiled” at the national level. It is also “Critically Imperiled” in British Columbia and is included in the province’s Red List. It is not currently protected under the federal *Species at Risk Act* or the *British Columbia Wildlife Act*, or by any other legislation in Canada.

Source: COSEWIC. 2019. COSEWIC assessment and status report on the Slender Yoke-moss Zygodon gracilis in Canada. Committee on the Status of Endangered Wildlife in Canada. Ottawa. xi + 28 pp.

For more information, please visit www.sararegistry.gc.ca.

For information regarding reproduction rights, please contact Environment and Climate Change Canada’s Public Inquiries Centre at 1-800-668-6767 (in Canada only) or 819-997-2800 or email to ec.enviroinfo.ec@canada.ca

Environment and Climate Change Canada | Environnement et Changement climatique Canada

Canada

Suckley's Cuckoo Bumble Bee

Photo: © Cory Sheffield

Scientific Name
Bombus suckleyi

Taxon
Arthropods

COSEWIC Status
Threatened

Canadian Range
Yukon, Northwest Territories, British Columbia, Alberta, Saskatchewan, Manitoba, Ontario, Québec, New Brunswick, Prince Edward island, Nova Scotia, Newfoundland (Island only, no species confirmed in Labrador)

Reason for designation

This bumble bee is a nest parasite of other bumble bees and depends on its hosts to rear its young. It is found in all provinces and territories except Nunavut. It is more frequent in the west than in the east and always much less frequent than its hosts. Despite significantly increased search effort for bumble bees in Canada over the last two decades, fewer individuals of this species have been encountered than in the past. There has been a decline of more than 30% in relative abundance compared to all bumble bees (indicating a population decline) and a decline in area of occupancy. The decline has been particularly severe in areas where the species was historically more frequent, in British Columbia and Alberta. The primary threat is the steep decline of the host bumble bee species, again in British Columbia and Alberta. The major threats to the hosts are the escape of pathogen-infected bumble bees from managed colonies in commercial greenhouses, pesticide use (particularly neonicotinoids), and climate change.

Wildlife Species Descriptions and Significance

Suckley's Cuckoo Bumble Bee is one of six true cuckoo bumble bee species occurring in North America. Both sexes are medium-sized (15–25 mm length). Females are slightly larger than males and have an abdomen with shiny black terga (dorsal abdominal segments) and yellow hairs near the tip; males have a similar colour pattern, but with more yellow hair on the abdomen. Unlike nest-building bumble bees, female cuckoo bumble bees do not possess a corbicula (pollen basket) on the hind leg as they do not collect pollen for their offspring.

Suckley's Cuckoo Bumble Bee can be distinguished from the similar Gypsy Cuckoo Bumble Bee by the prominent triangular ridges on the underside of the last segment of the abdomen. Males also typically have more yellow hairs on the body than Gypsy Cuckoo Bumble Bee.

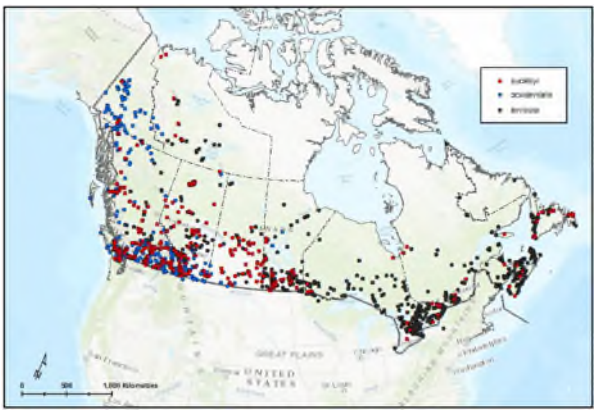
Suckley's Cuckoo Bumble Bee is an obligate social parasite of nest-building bumble bees of the subgenus Bombus. Of the four species in this subgenus in Canada, Western Bumble Bee is the only confirmed host in western Canada, while Yellow-banded Bumble Bee is the suspected host in eastern Canada due to co-occurrence of the two species in much of its eastern range of Suckley's Cuckoo Bumble Bee. Additional suspected hosts include Rusty-patched Bumble Bee (Ontario and Québec) and Cryptic Bumble Bee (northwestern Canada) because they are also in subgenus Bombus (like the confirmed host) and co-occur in the range of Suckley's Cuckoo Bumble Bee. However, there is no direct evidence that either of these are hosts.

Three of the host and probable host species have been assessed at risk in Canada by the Committee on the Status of Endangered Wildlife in Canada (COSEWIC): Western Bumble Bee occidentalis subspecies (Threatened) and mckayi subspecies (Special Concern), Yellow-banded Bumble Bee (Special Concern) and Rusty-patched Bumble Bee (Endangered). Cryptic Bumble Bee, a Holarctic species and potential host, has not been assessed by COSEWIC and has a conservation status of Secure.

Distribution

Suckley's Cuckoo Bumble Bee has an extensive distribution from the southern United States to the subarctic regions of Canada (Yukon) and east to the island of Newfoundland (not confirmed from Labrador). In Canada, the species has been recorded in all provinces and territories except Nunavut. The species is more abundant in western Canada, and most collection sites are from west of Manitoba.

Canadian records of Suckley's Cuckoo Bumble Bee date from 1897 (British Columbia) and 1901 (Ontario) to 2019 (Saskatchewan and Yukon). Additional records within the last ten years are from Alberta (2018), British Columbia (2013) and the island of Newfoundland (2010). The distribution of Suckley's Cuckoo Bumble Bee is limited by the distribution, and presumably abundance, of its host bumble bee species, although other factors appear to be important because it has not been collected evenly throughout its hosts' range.



Spatial distribution of Suckley's Cuckoo Bumble Bee (Bombus suckleyi) databased records in Canada.

Source : COSEWIC. 2019. COSEWIC assessment and status report on the Suckley's Cuckoo Bumble Bee Bombus suckleyi in Canada. Committee on the Status of Endangered Wildlife in Canada. Ottawa. xi + 70 pp.

Habitat

Suckley's Cuckoo Bumble Bee occurs in diverse habitats including open meadows and prairies, farms and croplands, urban areas, boreal forest, and montane meadows. Records are from sea level to 1200 m although the species could potentially occur at higher elevations where its host(s) occur. In the early spring, hosts typically establish nests in abandoned underground rodent burrows or other dry natural hollows; because Suckley's Cuckoo Bumble Bee is a nest parasite these same host residence sites also serve as its habitat. Adults have been recorded feeding on pollen and nectar from many flowers.

Biology

Suckley's Cuckoo Bumble Bee is an obligatory social parasite of nest-building bumble bees, and therefore does not produce a eusocial colony with distinct castes (i.e. no workers). The species has an annual life cycle. Mated females emerge in the spring, slightly later than host nest-building species (e.g., hosts emerge March – April and cuckoos emerge April – June, sometimes later in higher latitudes and/or elevations) and begin to search for potential host nests. Successful nest parasitism by female cuckoos occurs after hosts have established colonies with some workers, but

only if the host nest is not so large that the host workers can defend the colony and drive out the cuckoo. Once a host nest is found, the female cuckoo subdues (or kills) the host queen, and ultimately takes over egg laying in the nest; the workers of the original host queen care for the cuckoo's offspring. Cuckoos emerge throughout the summer and with higher numbers produced in late summer and early autumn. New female and male cuckoos produced in the host nest emerge to feed on nectar, and then mate. Mated females ultimately select an overwintering site, presumably near nest-building host species. Males and the original egg-laying female die at the onset of cold weather.

Population Sizes and Trends

Limited information on the Canadian on global population size and trends for Suckley's Cuckoo Bumble Bee is available. Most bumble bee surveys target all Bombus and do not specifically target cuckoo bumble bees. Historically, surveys have included all bumble bees and have mostly been conducted haphazardly or by wandering transects through suitable habitat, and have focused on recording new subpopulations, natural history and habitat information of bumble bees in general. Within the past 20 years, there have been extensive bumble bee surveys and academic research focused on pollinators, including bumble bees, and Suckley's Cuckoo Bumble Bee has been recorded during this work. The species is inherently less abundant than other bumble bees because it does not produce a worker caste and is less common than its hosts.

Historical data show Suckley's Cuckoo Bumble Bee appears to have always been more common in western Canada than in eastern Canada. The species has not been recorded from southern Ontario since the 1970s despite extensive search effort in the past twenty years. However, throughout other parts of its range the species remains present, albeit uncommon, where hosts occur.

Threats and Limiting Factors

The major threat to Suckley's Cuckoo Bumble Bee is the decline of its host species: Western Bumble Bee, in western Canada, and likely Yellow-banded Bumble Bee in eastern Canada. Both Western Bumble Bee and Yellow-banded Bumble Bee were once more common and widespread, and subpopulations have been declining through much of their range, likely due to pesticide use (including neonicotinoids), pathogen spillover (specifically within high intensity agricultural areas), and floral resource and habitat loss from agricultural intensification and natural systems modifications (e.g., fire suppression, natural shrub encroachment into open areas).

Protection, Status and Ranks

Suckley's Cuckoo Bumble Bee has no legal status and is not protected in Canada by any federal or provincial legislation. The species is globally ranked as Critically Imperilled (G1) and nationally in Canada as Vulnerable (N3) (NatureServe 2018). The species is assessed as Critically Endangered (CR) by the International Union for the Conservation of Nature (IUCN) Red List of Threatened Species. Western Bumble Bee occidentalis (Threatened) and mckayi subspecies (Special Concern) have been assessed by COSEWIC but not listed under SARA. Yellow-banded Bumble Bee (Special Concern) has been assessed by COSEWIC and listed under SARA. Rusty-patched Bumble Bee has been assessed as Endangered by COSEWIC and listed under SARA.

Source : COSEWIC. 2019. COSEWIC assessment and status report on the Suckley's Cuckoo Bumble Bee Bombus suckleyi in Canada. Committee on the Status of Endangered Wildlife in Canada. Ottawa. xi + 70 pp.

For more information, please visit www.sararegistry.gc.ca.

For information regarding reproduction rights, please contact Environment and Climate Change Canada's Public Inquiries Centre at 1-800-668-6767 (in Canada only) or 819-997-2800 or email to ec.enviroinfo.ec@canada.ca

Environment and Climate Change Canada | Environnement et Changement climatique Canada

Canada

Western Harvest Mouse megalotis subspecies

Photo © Andy Teucher, Government of British Columbia

Scientific name
Reithrodontomys megalotis megalotis

Taxon
Mammals

COSEWIC status
Endangered

Canadian range
British Columbia

Reason for designation

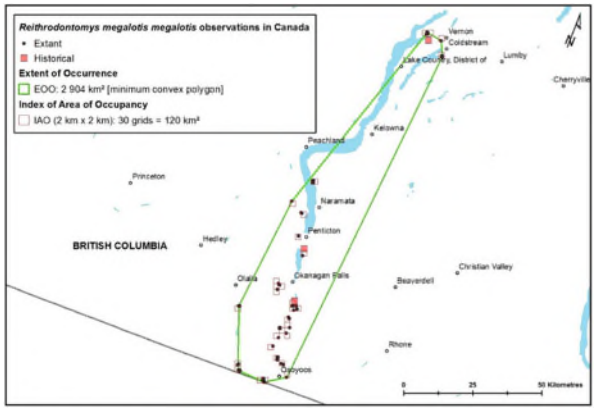
This tiny mouse occurs at the northern edge of its distribution within the Okanagan and Similkameen valleys of British Columbia, and is one of two designatable units of the species in Canada. It is among Canada's shortest-lived mammals. This species demonstrates extreme fluctuations in the number of mature individuals over time, increasing vulnerability to disturbances when populations are at a low in spring and early summer. The species' limited distribution, extreme fluctuations, and habitat loss are the reasons for designation. Change in status from Special Concern to Endangered is the result of inclusion of extreme fluctuations in the latest assessment. Continued urban and agricultural expansion threaten the persistence of this mouse.

Wildlife Species Description and Significance

Western Harvest Mouse (Reithrodontomys megalotis) has a body mass of approximately 11 g and averages 136 mm in total length, half of which is its tail. This brownish mouse has a faint dark dorsal stripe which runs the length of its body from head to tail, and has whitish fur on its belly. Western Harvest Mouse has prominent naked ears, a tail that is sparsely furred and white feet. It is similar in appearance to the larger and more common Deer Mouse and House Mouse; however, the juvenile Deer Mouse is most often grey in colour and the House Mouse has a tail that is completely naked.

Distribution

Western Harvest Mouse is widely distributed in central and western US, as well as in parts of Mexico. In Canada, the species occurs as two subspecies, with R. m. megalotis in the Okanagan and Similkameen valleys, and R. m. dychei in southern Alberta and Saskatchewan. These subspecies are geographically disjunct in the US and Canada. Each subspecies is considered a designatable unit.



Distribution of the megalotis subspecies of Western Harvest Mouse in British Columbia

Source : COSEWIC assessment and status report on the Western Harvest Mouse Reithrodontomys megalotis, megalotis subspecies and dychei subspecies, in Canada. Committee on the Status of Endangered Wildlife in Canada. Ottawa. xv + 37 pp.

Habitat

The megalotis subspecies is found in dry gullies with dense shrub cover as well as shrub-steppe rangelands, old fields, ponderosa pine forests, and both grazed and ungrazed Sagebrush and Antelope Bitterbrush habitats. The dychei subspecies is associated with low relief, flat or gently undulating grasslands with sandy soils and vegetation cover. The highest densities of this subspecies are trapped in areas with highly complex plant structure, particularly tall, dense grass.

Biology

Western Harvest Mouse is omnivorous, mainly eating seeds, new plant growth, and invertebrates such as caterpillars and moths. This mouse generally builds small grass nests on the ground or up to 1 m above ground in shrubs. Females can breed at the age of four months and may have up to five litters per season (March through November) with an average litter size of three. Although they can live for 18 months, most mice do not live past six months. Western Harvest Mouse appears to be able to enter torpor to cope with cold temperatures. In Canada, owls, Western Rattlesnake and Gophersnake are the only confirmed predators, but other likely predators include Prairie Rattlesnake, hawks, jays, shrikes, Raccoon, foxes, weasels, skunks, American Badger and Coyote. The recorded dispersal distance of Western Harvest Mouse is generally < 300 m but movements of 3 km have been recorded along road rights-of-way. However, roads appear to be avoided and may limit dispersal.

Population Sizes and Trends

In the US, Western Harvest Mouse is a prominent member of grassland communities. In Canada, this species is naturally rare and occurs at low densities, typically comprising less than 10% of the small-mammal community. Western Harvest Mouse populations appear to peak in late fall or early winter and decline to low levels in midsummer. There is no comprehensive sampling of the distribution and abundance of either subspecies, thus, population size and trends are unknown.

Threats and Limiting Factors

Western Harvest Mouse is susceptible to habitat change resulting from fire, but populations can increase quickly, provided there is suitable unburned habitat nearby. Habitat fragmentation and loss caused by urban development, roads and agriculture are the most significant threats to the megalotis subspecies. The future effects of climate change, including drought and fire, are threats to the dychei subspecies.

Western Harvest Mouse is known to fluctuate in abundance. Populations in Canada are small and isolated, and the species has a moderate dispersal distance.

Protection, Status and Ranks

The megalotis subspecies of Western Harvest Mouse is found within several protected areas in British Columbia. The dychei subspecies is found within the Canadian Forces Base Suffield National Wildlife Area in Alberta. The megalotis subspecies is listed as Special Concern and the dychei subspecies is listed as Endangered on Schedule 1 of Canada's *Species at Risk Act*.

The species is ranked by NatureServe (2018) as Secure globally and as Vulnerable to Imperilled in Canada. It is ranked as Vulnerable to Imperilled in British Columbia and as Critically Imperilled in Alberta. Western Harvest Mouse is on the Blue List in British Columbia, and has a status of Undetermined in Alberta.

Source: COSEWIC assessment and status report on the Western Harvest Mouse Reithrodontomys megalotis, megalotis subspecies and dychei subspecies, in Canada. Committee on the Status of Endangered Wildlife in Canada. Ottawa. xv + 37 pp.

For more information, please visit www.sararegistry.gc.ca.

For information regarding reproduction rights, please contact Environment and Climate Change Canada's Public Inquiries Centre at 1-800- 668-6767 (in Canada only) or 819-997-2800 or email to ec.enviroinfo.ec@canada.ca.

Ginny Gemmell

From: EP.RPY / SAR.PYR (EC) <ec.ep.rpy-sar.pyr.ec@canada.ca>
Sent: Monday, March 22, 2021 3:45 PM
To: EP.RPY / SAR.PYR (EC)
Subject: RE: Consultation on amending Schedule 1 of the Species at Risk Act
Attachments: SARA Listing Amendment_ConsultationLetter.pdf; SARAListing_ConsultationDocument_Part1.pdf; SARAListing_ConsultationDocument_Part2.pdf; SARAListing_SpeciesSummaries_BC.pdf

Hello,

We are contacting you to follow-up on the consultation materials that were sent out in spring 2020 in regard to the proposed amendments to the list of terrestrial species protected under the *Species at Risk Act* (SARA). In response to the COVID-19 situation, the original consultations closing dates for both the normal and extended consultations were extended to April 2, 2021 for species undergoing normal consultations and to September 2, 2021 for species undergoing Extended consultations. Please see the attached digital letter and information from the Canadian Wildlife Service sent previously regarding the proposed amendments to Schedule 1 (the List of Wildlife Species at Risk) of the *Species at Risk Act*.

The BC species included in this national consultation are as follows:

Taxon	COSEWIC status	Species	Range	Consultation Path
Newly assessed species				
Mosses	Endangered	Carey's Small Limestone Moss	BC • Known from three sites on Haida Gwaii	Normal
Mosses	Endangered	Dalton's Moss	BC • Known from one site on Haida Gwaii	Normal
Mosses	Endangered	Drooping–leaved Beard–moss	BC • Known from four sites on the west coast of Haida Gwaii	Normal
Vascular Plants	Endangered	Columbia Quillwort	BC • Found in extreme southern BC near Castlegar	Normal
Vascular Plants	Endangered	Dwarf Hesperochiron	BC • Found in a small area of southeastern BC	Normal
Vascular Plants	Endangered	Hairy Paintbrush	BC • Known from a single site between Salmo and Castlegar, in southern BC	Normal
Vascular Plants	Endangered	Ute Ladies'–tresses	BC • Found from two locations in the south Okanagan Valley, BC	Normal

Birds	Threatened	Hudsonian Godwit	YT NT NU BC AB SK MB ON QC NB PE NS NL • Breeds in, and migrates through, northern BC	Extended
Arthropods	Special Concern	Yellow Scarab Hunter Wasp	BC • Found in the south Okanagan and Similkameen valleys of BC	Normal
Species eligible for reclassification				
Lichens	From Special Concern to Threatened	Cryptic Paw Lichen	BC • Found in moist, old growth forests at lower elevations in BC	Extended

If you have any questions or would like to meet to discuss the species and the proposed listing amendments please contact our Pacific region office via e-mail at ec.ep.rpy-sar.pyr.ec@canada.ca.

Respectfully,
Regulatory Affairs Unit
Canadian Wildlife Service / Pacific Region
Environment and Climate Change Canada / Government of Canada
5421 Robertson Road, Delta, BC, V4K 3N2
ec.ep.rpy-sar.pyr.ec@canada.ca

Environment and Climate Change Canada Environnement et Changement climatique Canada

Canada

January 22, 2020

RE: Consultation on amending Schedule 1 of the *Species at Risk Act*

On October 9, 2019, the Committee on the Status of Endangered Wildlife in Canada (COSEWIC) submitted 56 assessments of species at risk to the federal Minister of the Environment.

On January 7, 2019, the Government of Canada posted the Ministerial Response Statements for these species on the *Species at Risk Act* (SARA) Public Registry. The Government is now launching consultations on the potential amendment of Schedule 1, the List of Wildlife Species at Risk under SARA. The complete set of statements and the consultation path (normal or extended) for each species are available at: https://www.canada.ca/en/environment-climate-change/services/species-risk-act-accord-funding/listing-process/minister-environment-response-assessments-2019.html.

Environment and Climate Change Canada is seeking comments on the proposed amendment of Schedule 1 resulting from assessments of 17 terrestrial species. Ten of the species included in this national consultation are found in British Columbia (BC). These are:

Carey's Small Limestone Moss: New listing as Endangered

- A moss known from three sites on Haida Gwaii

Dalton's Moss: New listing as Endangered

- A moss known from one site on Haida Gwaii

Drooping-leaved Beard-moss: New listing as Endangered

- A moss known from four sites on the west coast of Haida Gwaii

Columbia Quilwort: New listing as Endangered

- A plant found in extreme southern BC near Castlegar

Dwarf Hesperochiron: New listing as Endangered

- A perennial plant found a small area of southeastern BC

Hairy Paintbrush: New listing as Endangered

- An annual plant known from a single site between Salmo and Castlegar, in southern BC

Ute Ladies'-tresses: New listing as Endangered

- An orchid found from two locations in the south Okanagan Valley, BC

Hudsonian Godwit: New listing as Threatened

- A large Arctic-nesting shorebird that breeds in, and migrates through, northern BC

Yellow Scarab Hunter Wasp: New listing as Special Concern

- A large wasp found in the south Okanagan and Similkameen valleys of BC

Cryptic Paw Lichen: Reclassification from Special Concern to Threatened

- A lichen found in moist, old growth forests at lower elevations in BC

Fisheries and Oceans Canada will conduct consultations for 17 aquatic species eligible for addition to the list. Where authorized by a land claims agreement to perform functions in respect of an aquatic wildlife species, Environment and Climate Change Canada and Fisheries and Oceans Canada will consult the wildlife management board.

Additional information on the listing and consultation processes for terrestrial species is available in "Consultation on Amending the List of Species under the *Species at Risk Act* -Terrestrial Species". This document also includes a questionnaire that provides you guidance on the types of information and comments Environment and Climate Change Canada is seeking. It is posted on the SARA Public Registry at: https://species-registry.canada.ca/index-en.html#/documents/3542.

You are invited to submit comments on the potential impacts of amending the List of Wildlife Species at Risk according to these COSEWIC status assessments. Your comments will be considered and will inform the Minister's recommendation to Cabinet. Please provide comments by **May 7, 2020** for species under a normal consultation process and by **October 7, 2020** for species following an extended consultation process. Four terrestrial species, including the Hudsonian Godwit and the Cryptic Paw Lichen, will follow an extended consultation process. There will also be an opportunity to provide comments during the 30-day public consultation period associated with pre-publication in *Canada Gazette* Part I. More detailed information on individual species is included in the COSEWIC status reports, is available on the SARA Public Registry.

We encourage you to submit your comments to the SARA Public Registry at ec.registrelep-sararegistry.ec@canada.ca, or by answering the online survey included in Part 2 of the Consultation Document. You are also welcome to contact our regional office with any questions:

Regulatory Affairs
Canadian Wildlife Service / Pacific Region
Environment and Climate Change Canada
5421 Robertson Rd, RR1
Delta, BC V4K 3N2
ec.ep.rpy-sar.pyr.ec@canada.ca / Tel: 604-350-1900

Respectfully,

Randal Lake
Head, Regulatory Affairs Unit
Canadian Wildlife Service, Pacific Region
Environment and Climate Change Canada
5421 Robertson Rd, RR1
Delta, BC V4K 3N2

CONSULTATION ON AMENDING THE LIST OF SPECIES UNDER THE *SPECIES AT RISK ACT*

Terrestrial Species

Environment and Climate Change Canada
Environnement et Changement climatique Canada

Canada

Nº de cat. : En1-36E-PDF
ISBN : 1713-0948

Unless otherwise specified, you may not reproduce materials in this publication, in whole or in part, for the purposes of commercial redistribution without prior written permission from Environment and Climate Change Canada's copyright administrator. To obtain permission to reproduce Government of Canada materials for commercial purposes, apply for Crown Copyright Clearance by contacting:

Environment and Climate Change Canada
Public Inquiries Centre
12th Floor, Fontaine Building
200 Sacré-Coeur Boulevard
Gatineau QC K1A 0H3
Telephone: 819-938-3860
Toll Free: 1-800-668-6767 (in Canada only)
Email: ec.enviroinfo.ec@canada.ca

Photos :
Dwarf Hesperochiron © Ryan Batten
Hudsonian Godwit © Cameron Eckert
American Bubble Bee © Victoria MacPhail

© Her Majesty the Queen in Right of Canada, represented by the Minister of Environment and Climate Change Canada, 2020

Aussi disponible en français

TABLE OF CONTENT

ADDITION OF SPECIES TO THE SPECIES AT RISK ACT 1

The *Species at Risk Act* and the List of Wildlife Species at Risk 1
COSEWIC and the assessment process for identifying species at risk 1
Terms used to define the degree of risk to a species 2
Terrestrial and aquatic species eligible for Schedule 1 amendments 2
The Minister of Environment and Climate Change's response to the COSEWIC assessment: the response statement 2
Comments solicited on the proposed amendment of Schedule 1 2

THE SPECIES AT RISK ACT LISTING PROCESS AND CONSULTATION 3
The purpose of consultations on amendments to the List 3
Legislative context of the consultations: the Minister's recommendation to the Governor in Council 3
Normal and extended consultation periods 3
FIGURE 1: The species listing process under SARA 5
Who is consulted, and how 6
Role and impact of public consultations in the listing process 6

SIGNIFICANCE OF THE ADDITION OF A SPECIES TO SCHEDULE 1 7
Protection for listed Extirpated, Endangered and Threatened species 7
Recovery strategies and action plans for Extirpated, Endangered and Threatened species 8
Permits and agreements 8
Protection for listed species of Special Concern 9
Management plans for species of Special Concern 9
Providing comments 9

GLOSSARY 10

ADDITION OF SPECIES TO THE SPECIES AT RISK ACT

THE *SPECIES AT RISK ACT* AND THE LIST OF WILDLIFE SPECIES AT RISK

The Government of Canada is committed to preventing the disappearance of wildlife species at risk from our lands. As part of its strategy for realizing that commitment, on June 5, 2003, the Government of Canada proclaimed the *Species at Risk Act* (SARA). Attached to the Act is Schedule 1, the list of the species provided for under SARA, also called the List of Wildlife Species at Risk. Extirpated, Endangered and Threatened species on Schedule 1 benefit from the protection afforded by the prohibitions and from recovery planning requirements under SARA. Special Concern species benefit from its management planning requirements.

The policy "Timeline for amendments to Schedule 1 of the Species at Risk Act" has set standardized timelines for listing decisions. These new timelines mean that the Minister will seek to have the final decision made within 24 months. The 24 months begin with the date that the Minister receives a species' status assessment from COSEWIC. This date is published in the response statement for each species. The Minister's receives the COSEWIC Annual Report at the same time.

The response statement can be found on the SAR Registry, on the species' page, in the documents section. The Timeline for amendments to Schedule 1 of the Species at Risk Act policy can be viewed on the SAR Public Registry at: https://wildlife-species.canada.ca/species-risk-registry/document/default_e.cfm?documentID=3203 and the COSEWIC Annual Report can be viewed at: https://www.canada.ca/en/environment-climate-change/services/committee-status-endangered-wildlife.html.

The complete list of species currently on Schedule 1 can be viewed on the SAR Public Registry at: https://laws-lois.justice.gc.ca/eng/acts/s-15.3/page-17.html#h-435647.

Species become eligible for addition to Schedule 1 once they have been assessed as being at risk by the Committee on the Status of Endangered Wildlife in Canada (COSEWIC). The decision to add a species to Schedule 1 is made by the Governor in Council further to a recommendation from the Minister of Environment and Climate Change. The Governor in Council is the formal executive body that gives legal effect to decisions that then have the force of law.

COSEWIC AND THE ASSESSMENT PROCESS FOR IDENTIFYING SPECIES AT RISK

COSEWIC is recognized under SARA as the authority for assessing the status of wildlife species at risk. COSEWIC comprises experts on wildlife species at risk. Its members have backgrounds in the fields of biology, ecology, genetics, Indigenous traditional knowledge and other relevant fields. They come from various communities, including academia, Indigenous organizations, governments and non-governmental organizations.

COSEWIC gives priority to those species more likely to become extinct, and then commissions a status report for the evaluation of the species' status. To be accepted, status reports must be peer-reviewed and approved by a subcommittee

of species specialists. In special circumstances, assessments can be done on an emergency basis. When the status report is complete, COSEWIC meets to examine it and discuss the species. COSEWIC then determines whether the species is at risk, and, if so, it then assesses the level of risk and assigns a conservation status.

TERMS USED TO DEFINE THE DEGREE OF RISK TO A SPECIES

The conservation status defines the degree of risk to a species. The terms used under SARA are Extirpated, Endangered, Threatened and Special Concern. Extirpated species are wildlife species that no longer occur in the wild in Canada but still exist elsewhere. Endangered species are wildlife species that are likely to soon become Extirpated or Extinct. Threatened species are likely to become Endangered if nothing is done to reverse the factors leading to their extirpation or extinction. The term Special Concern is used for wildlife species that may become Threatened or Endangered due to a combination of biological characteristics and threats. Once COSEWIC has assessed a species as Extirpated, Endangered, Threatened or Special Concern, it is eligible for inclusion on Schedule 1.

For more information on COSEWIC, visit the COSEWIC website at: www.canada.ca/en/environment-climate-change/services/committee-status-endangered-wildlife.html.

TERRESTRIAL AND AQUATIC SPECIES ELIGIBLE FOR SCHEDULE 1 AMENDMENTS

The Minister of Fisheries and Oceans conducts separate consultations for the aquatic species. For more information on the consultations for aquatic species, visit the Fisheries and Oceans Canada website at www.dfo-mpo.gc.ca.

The Minister of Environment and Climate Change is conducting the consultations for all other species at risk.

Species at risk also occur in national parks or other lands administered by Parks Canada; Parks Canada shares responsibility for these species with Environment and Climate Change Canada.

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND CLIMATE CHANGE'S RESPONSE TO THE COSEWIC ASSESSMENT: THE RESPONSE STATEMENT

After COSEWIC has completed its assessment of a species, it provides it to the Minister of Environment and Climate Change. The Minister of Environment and Climate Change then has 90 days to post a response on the Species at Risk Public Registry, known as the response statement. The response statement provides information on the scope of any consultations and the timelines for action, to the extent possible. It identifies how long the consultations will be (whether they are "normal" or "extended") by stating when the Minister will forward the assessment to the Governor in Council. Consultations for a group of species are launched with the posting of their response statements.

COMMENTS SOLICITED ON THE PROPOSED AMENDMENT OF SCHEDULE 1

The conservation of wildlife is a joint legal responsibility: one that is shared among the governments of Canada. But biodiversity will not be conserved by governments that act alone. The best way to secure the survival of species at risk and their habitats is through the active participation of all those concerned. SARA recognizes this, and that all Indigenous peoples and Canadians have a role to play in preventing the disappearance of wildlife species from our lands. The Government of Canada is inviting and encouraging you to become involved. One way that you can do so is by sharing your comments concerning the addition or reclassification of these terrestrial species.

Your comments are considered in relation to the potential consequences of whether or not a species is included on Schedule 1, and they are then used to inform the drafting of the Minister's proposed listing recommendations for each of these species.

THE SPECIES AT RISK ACT LISTING PROCESS AND CONSULTATION

The addition of a wildlife species at risk to Schedule 1 of SARA facilitates providing for its protection and conservation. To be effective, the listing process must be transparent and open. The species listing process under SARA is summarized in Figure 1.

THE PURPOSE OF CONSULTATIONS ON AMENDMENTS TO THE LIST

When COSEWIC assesses a wildlife species, it does so solely on the basis of the best available information relevant to the biological status of the species. COSEWIC then submits the assessment to the Minister of Environment and Climate Change, who considers it when making the listing recommendation to the Governor in Council. The purpose of these consultations is to provide the Minister with a better understanding of the potential social and economic impacts of the proposed change to the List of Wildlife Species at Risk, and of the potential consequences of not adding a species to the List.

LEGISLATIVE CONTEXT OF THE CONSULTATIONS: THE MINISTER'S RECOMMENDATION TO THE GOVERNOR IN COUNCIL

The comments collected during the consultations inform the Governor in Council's consideration of the Minister's recommendations for listing species at risk. The Minister must recommend one of three courses of action. These are for the Governor in Council to accept the species assessment and modify Schedule 1 accordingly, not to add the species to Schedule 1, or to refer the species assessment back to COSEWIC for its further consideration (Figure 1).

NORMAL AND EXTENDED CONSULTATION PERIODS

Normal consultations meet the consultation needs for the listing of most species at risk. The consultations last between four and nine months (known respectively as normal and extended consultation paths). Longer consultations may be needed to ensure appropriate consultations. The reasons more time may be needed include, but are not limited to, ensuring appropriate engagement with Indigenous Peoples and complex socioeconomic analyses. Consultations are also required with wildlife management boards, which are authorized under land claims agreements for functions involving a wildlife species.

The extent of consultations needs to be proportional to the expected impact of a listing decision and the time that may be needed to consult. Under some circumstances, whether or not a species will be included on Schedule 1 could have significant and widespread impacts on the activities of some groups of people. It is essential that such stakeholders have the opportunity to inform the pending decision and, to the extent possible, to provide input on its potential consequences and to share ideas on how best to approach threats to the species. A longer period may also be required to consult appropriately with some groups. For example, consultations can take longer for groups that meet infrequently but that must be engaged on several occasions. For such reasons, extended consultations may be undertaken.

Occasionally, for reasons such as these, the timelines initially set out in the response statement may not be adequate. In such cases, if Governor in

Council does not receive the assessment at the time specified in the response statement, within one month another statement is to be published on the Registry describing. It will describe the reason(s) for the delay and set out next steps.

For both normal and extended consultations, once they are complete, the Minister of Environment and Climate Change forwards the species assessments to the Governor in Council for the government's formal receipt of the assessment. The Governor in Council then has nine months to come to a listing decision.

The consultation paths (normal or extended) for the terrestrial species eligible for an Amendment to Schedule 1" are announced when the Minister publishes the response statements.

No consultations are undertaken for species already on Schedule 1 and for which no change in status is being proposed.

FIGURE 1: THE SPECIES LISTING PROCESS UNDER SARA

1	The Minister of Environment and Climate Change receives species assessments from COSEWIC at least once per year.
2	The competent departments undertake internal review to determine the extent of public consultation and socio-economic analysis necessary to inform the listing decision.
3	Within 90 days of receipt of the species assessments prepared by COSEWIC, the Minister of Environment and Climate Change publishes a response statement on the SARA Public Registry that indicates how he or she intends to respond to the assessment and, to the extent possible, provides timelines for action.
4	Where appropriate, the competent departments undertake consultations and any other relevant analysis needed to prepare the advice for the Minister of Environment and Climate Change.
5	The Minister of Environment and Climate Change forwards the assessment to the Governor in Council for receipt. This generally occurs within twelve months of posting the response statement, unless further consultation is necessary.
6	Within nine months of receiving the assessment, the Governor in Council, on the recommendation of the Minister of Environment and Climate Changemay decide whether or not to list the species under Schedule 1 of SARA or refer the assessment back to COSEWIC for further information or consideration.
7	Once a species is added to Schedule 1, it benefits from the applicable provisions of SARA.

WHO IS CONSULTED, AND HOW

It is most important to consult with those who would be most affected by the proposed changes. There is protection that is immediately in place when a species that is Extirpated, Endangered or Threatened is added to Schedule 1 (for more details, see below, "Protection for listed Extirpated, Endangered and Threatened species"). This immediate protection does not apply to species of Special Concern. The nature of the protection depends on the type of species, its conservation status, and where the species is found. Environment and Climate Change Canada takes this into account during the consultations; those who may be affected by the impacts of the automatic protections are contacted directly, others are encouraged to contribute through a variety of approaches.

Indigenous peoples known to have species at risk on their lands, for which changes to Schedule 1 are being considered, will be contacted. Their engagement is of particular significance, acknowledging their role in the management of the extensive traditional territories and the reserve and settlement lands.

A Wildlife Management Board is a group that has been established under a land claims agreement and is authorized by the agreement to perform functions in respect of wildlife species. Some eligible species at risk are found on lands where existing land claims agreements apply that give specific authority to a Wildlife Management Board. In such cases, the Minister of Environment and Climate Change will consult with the relevant board.

To encourage others to contribute and make the necessary information readily available, this document is distributed to known stakeholders and posted on the Species at Risk Public Registry. More extensive consultations may also be done through regional or community meetings or through a more targeted approach.

Environment and Climate Change Canada also sends notice of the consultations to identified concerned groups and individuals who have made their interests known. These include, but are not limited to, industries, resource users, landowners and environmental non-governmental organizations.

In most cases, it is difficult for Environment and Climate Change Canada to fully examine the potential impacts of recovery actions when species are being considered for listing. Recovery actions for terrestrial species usually have not yet been comprehensively defined at the time of listing, so their impact cannot be fully understood. Once they are better understood, efforts are made to minimize adverse social and economic impacts of listing and to maximize the benefits. SARA requires that recovery measures be prepared in consultation with those considered to be directly affected by them.

In addition to the public, Environment and Climate Change Canada consults on listing with the governments of the provinces and territories with lead responsibility for the conservation and management of these wildlife species. Environment and Climate Change Canada also consults with other federal departments and agencies.

ROLE AND IMPACT OF PUBLIC CONSULTATIONS IN THE LISTING PROCESS

The results of the public consultations are of great significance to informing the process of listing species at risk. Environment and Climate Change Canada carefully reviews the comments it receives to gain a better understanding of the benefits and costs of changing the List.

The comments are then used to inform the Regulatory Impact Analysis Statement (RIAS). The RIAS is a report that summarizes the impact of a proposed regulatory change. It includes a description of the proposed change and an analysis of its expected impact, which takes into account the results of the public consultations. In developing the RIAS, the Government of Canada recognizes that Canada's natural heritage is an integral part of our national identity and history and that wildlife in all its forms has value in and of itself.

The Government of Canada also recognizes that the absence of full scientific certainty is not a reason to postpone decisions to protect the environment.

A draft Order is then prepared, providing notice that a decision is being taken by the Governor in Council. The draft Order proposing to list all or some of the species under consideration is then published, along with the RIAS, in the *Canada Gazette*, Part I, for a comment period of 30 days.

The Minister of Environment and Climate Change will take into consideration comments and any additional information received following publication of the draft Order and the RIAS in the *Canada Gazette*, Part I. The Minister then makes a final listing recommendation for each species to the Governor in Council. The Governor in Council next decides either to accept the species assessment and amend Schedule 1 accordingly; or not to add the species to Schedule 1; or to refer the species assessment back to COSEWIC for further information or consideration. The final decision is published in the *Canada Gazette*, Part II, and on the Species at Risk Public Registry. If the Governor in Council decides to list a species, it is at this point that it becomes legally included on Schedule 1.

SIGNIFICANCE OF THE ADDITION OF A SPECIES TO SCHEDULE 1

The protection that comes into effect following the addition of a species to Schedule 1 depends upon a number of factors. These include the species' status under SARA, the type of species and where it occurs.

PROTECTION FOR LISTED EXTIRPATED, ENDANGERED AND THREATENED SPECIES

Responsibility for the conservation of wildlife is shared among the governments of Canada. SARA establishes legal protection for individuals as soon as a species is listed as Threatened, Endangered or Extirpated, and, in the case of Threatened and Endangered species, for their residences. This applies to species considered federal species or if they are found on federal land.

Federal species include migratory birds, as defined by the *Migratory Birds Convention Act, 1994*, and aquatic species covered by the *Fisheries Act*. Federal land means land that belongs to the federal government, and the internal waters and territorial sea of Canada. It also means land set apart for the use and benefit of a band under the *Indian Act* (such as reserves). In the territories, the protection for species at risk on federal lands applies only where they are on lands under the authority of the Minister of Environment and Climate Change or the Parks Canada Agency.

Migratory birds are protected by the *Migratory Birds Regulations*, under the *Migratory Birds Convention Act, 1994*, which strictly prohibits the harming of migratory birds and the disturbance or destruction of their nests and eggs. For more information, please refer to the Regulations for the complete list of prohibitions: https://laws-lois.justice.gc.ca/eng/regulations/C.R.C.%2C_c._1035/index.html.

SARA's protection for individuals makes it an offence to kill, harm, harass, capture or take an individual of a species listed as Extirpated, Endangered or Threatened. It is also an offence to damage or destroy the residence of one or more individuals of an Endangered or Threatened species or an Extirpated species whose

reintroduction has been recommended by a recovery strategy. The Act also makes it an offence to possess, collect, buy, sell or trade an individual of a species that is Extirpated, Endangered or Threatened.

Species at risk that are neither aquatic nor protected under the *Migratory Birds Convention Act, 1994*, nor on federal lands, do not receive immediate protection upon listing under SARA. Instead, in most cases, the protection of terrestrial species on non-federal lands is the responsibility of the provinces and territories where they are found. The application of protections under SARA to a species at risk on non-federal lands requires that the Governor in Council make an order defining those lands. This can only occur when the Minister is of the opinion that the laws of the province or territory do not effectively protect the species. To put such an order in place, the Minister would then need to recommend the order be made to the Governor in Council. If the Governor in Council agrees to make the order, the prohibitions of SARA would then apply to the provincial or territorial lands specified by the order. The federal government would consult before making such an order.

RECOVERY STRATEGIES AND ACTION PLANS FOR EXTIRPATED, ENDANGERED AND THREATENED SPECIES

Recovery planning results in the development of recovery strategies and action plans for Extirpated, Endangered or Threatened species. It involves the different levels of government responsible for the management of the species, depending on what type of species it is and where it occurs. These include federal, provincial and territorial governments as well as Wildlife Management Boards. Recovery strategies and action plans are also prepared in cooperation with directly affected Indigenous organizations. Landowners and other stakeholders directly affected by the recovery strategy are consulted to the extent possible.

Recovery strategies must be prepared for all Extirpated, Endangered and Threatened species. They include measures to mitigate the known threats to the species and its habitat and set the population and distribution objectives. Other objectives can be included, such as stewardship, to conserve the species, or education, to increase public awareness. Recovery strategies must include a statement of the time frame for the development of one or more action plans that will state the measures necessary to implement the recovery strategy. To the extent possible, recovery strategies must also identify the critical habitat of the species, which is the habitat necessary for the survival or recovery of the species. If there is not enough information available to identify critical habitat, the recovery strategy includes a schedule of studies required for its identification. This schedule outlines what must be done to obtain the necessary information and by when it needs to be done. In such cases, critical habitat can be identified in a subsequent action plan.

Proposed recovery strategies for newly listed species are posted on the Species at Risk Public Registry to provide for public review and comment. For Endangered species, proposed recovery strategies are posted within one year of their addition to Schedule 1, and for Threatened or Extirpated species, within two years.

Once a recovery strategy has been posted as final, one or more action plans based on the recovery strategy must then be prepared. These include measures to address threats and achieve the population and distribution objectives. Action plans also complete the identification of the critical habitat where necessary and, to the extent possible, state measures that are proposed to protect it.

PERMITS AND AGREEMENTS

For terrestrial species listed on SARA Schedule 1 as Extirpated, Endangered or Threatened, the Minister of Environment and Climate Change may authorize exceptions to the Act's prohibitions,

when and where they apply. The Minister can enter into agreements or issue permits only for one of three purposes: for research, for conservation activities, or if the effects to the species are incidental to the activity. Research must relate to the conservation of a species and be conducted by qualified scientists. Conservation activities must benefit a listed species or be required to enhance its chances of survival. All activities, including those that incidentally affect a listed species, its individuals, residences or critical habitat must also meet certain conditions. First, it must be established that all reasonable alternatives to the activity have been considered and the best solution has been adopted. Second, it must also be established that all feasible measures will be taken to minimize the impact of the activity on the listed species. Finally, it must be established that the activity will not jeopardize the survival or recovery of the species. Having issued a permit or agreement, the Minister must then include an explanation on the Species at Risk Public Registry of why the permit or agreement was issued.

PROTECTION FOR LISTED SPECIES OF SPECIAL CONCERN

While immediate protection under SARA for species listed as Extirpated, Endangered and Threatened does not apply to species listed as Special Concern, any existing protections and prohibitions, such as those provided by the *Migratory Birds Convention Act, 1994* or the *Canada National Parks Act*, continue to be in force.

MANAGEMENT PLANS FOR SPECIES OF SPECIAL CONCERN

For species of Special Concern, management plans are to be prepared and made available on the Species at Risk Public Registry within three years of a species' addition to Schedule 1, allowing for public review and comment. Management plans include appropriate conservation measures for the species and for its habitat. They are prepared in cooperation with the jurisdictions responsible for the management of the species, including directly affected Wildlife Management Boards and Indigenous organizations. Landowners, lessees and others directly affected by a management plan will also be consulted to the extent possible.

PROVIDING COMMENTS

The involvement of Canadians is integral to the listing process, as it is to the ultimate protection of Canadian wildlife. Your comments matter and are given serious consideration. ECCC will review all the comments that it receives by the deadlines provided in consultation materials.

For any information on the *Species at Risk Act*, please visit the Species at Risk Public Registry at: www.canada.ca/en/environment-climate-change/services/species-risk-public-registry.html.

GLOSSARY

Aquatic species: A wildlife species that is a fish as defined in section 2 of the Fisheries Act or a marine plant as defined in section 47 of the Act. The term includes marine mammals.

Canada Gazette: The *Canada Gazette* is one of the vehicles that Canadians can use to access laws and regulations. It has been the "official newspaper" of the Government of Canada since 1841. Government departments and agencies as well as the private sector are required by law to publish certain information in the *Canada Gazette*. Notices and proposed regulations are published in the *Canada Gazette*, Part I, and official regulations are published in the *Canada Gazette*, Part II. For more information, please visit http://gazetteducanada.gc.ca.

Canadian Endangered Species Conservation Council: The Council is made up of federal, provincial and territorial ministers with responsibilities for wildlife species. The Council's mandate is to provide national leadership and coordination for the protection of species at risk.

COSEWIC: The Committee on the Status of Endangered Wildlife in Canada. The Committee comprises experts on wildlife species at risk. Their backgrounds are in the fields of biology, ecology, genetics, Indigenous traditional knowledge and other relevant fields. These experts come from various communities, including, among others, government and academia.

COSEWIC assessment: COSEWIC's assessment or re-assessment of the status of a wildlife species, based on a status report on the species that COSEWIC either has had prepared or has received with an application.

Down-listing: A revision of the status of a species on Schedule 1 to a status of lower risk. A revision of the status of a Schedule 1 species to a higher risk status would be up-listing.

Federal land: Any land owned by the federal government, the internal waters and territorial sea of Canada, and reserves and other land set apart for the use and benefit of a band under the *Indian Act*.

Governor in Council: The Governor General of Canada acting on the advice of the Queen's Privy Council for Canada, the formal executive body that gives legal effect to those decisions of Cabinet that are to have the force of law.

Individual: An individual of a wildlife species, whether living or dead, at any developmental stage, and includes larvae, embryos, eggs, sperm, seeds, pollen, spores and asexual propagules.

Order: An order issued by the Governor in Council, either on the basis of authority delegated by legislation or by virtue of the prerogative powers of the Crown.

Response statement: A document in which the Minister of Environment and Climate Change indicates how he or she intends to respond to the COSEWIC assessment of a wildlife species. A response statement is posted on the Species at Risk Public Registry within 90 days of receipt of the assessment by the Minister, and provides timelines for action to the extent possible.

RIAS: Regulatory Impact Analysis Statement. A document that provides an analysis of the expected impact of a regulatory initiative and which accompanies an Order in Council.

Species at Risk Public Registry: Developed as an online service, the Species at Risk Public Registry has been accessible to the public since proclamation of the *Species at Risk Act* (SARA). The website gives users easy access to documents and information related to SARA at any time and location with Internet access. It can be found at www.canada.ca/en/environment-climate-change/services/species-risk-public-registry.html.

Schedule 1: A schedule of SARA, also known as the List of Wildlife Species at Risk, which presents the list of species protected under SARA.

Up-listing: A revision of the status of a species on Schedule 1 to a status of higher risk. A revision of the status of a Schedule 1 species to a lower risk status would be down-listing.

Wildlife Management Board: Established under the land claims agreements in northern Quebec, Newfoundland and Labrador, Yukon, Northwest Territories, British Columbia, and Nunavut, Wildlife Management Boards are the "main instruments of wildlife management" within their settlement areas. In this role, Wildlife Management Boards not only establish, modify and remove levels of total allowable harvest of a variety of wildlife species, but also participate in research activities, including annual harvest studies, and approve the designation of species at risk in their settlement areas.

Wildlife Species: Under SARA, a species, subspecies, variety, or geographically or genetically distinct population of animal, plant or other organism, other than a bacterium or virus. To be eligible for inclusion under SARA, a wildlife species must be wild by nature and native to Canada. Non-native species that have been here for 50 years or more can be considered eligible if they came without human intervention.

Environment and Climate Change Canada
Environnement et Changement climatique Canada

Canada

The List of Species Eligible for an Amendment to Schedule 1

Environment and Climate Change Canada | Environnement et Changement climatique Canada

Canada

Table of Contents

THE LIST OF SPECIES ELIGIBLE FOR AN AMENDMENT TO SCHEDULE 1 3
Status of the recently assessed species and consultation paths 3
Questions to guide your comments 3
Providing comments 5
Table 1: Terrestrial species recently assessed by COSEWIC eligible for addition 6
to Schedule 1 or reclassification 6
Table 2: Terrestrial species recently reassessed by COSEWIC (no consultations- 7
species status confirmation) 7
THE COSEWIC SUMMARIES OF TERRESTRIAL SPECIES ELIGIBLE FOR ADDITION OR RECLASSIFICATION ON SCHEDULE 1 8

Environment and Climate Change Canada | Environnement et Changement climatique Canada

Canada

THE LIST OF SPECIES ELIGIBLE FOR AN AMENDMENT TO SCHEDULE 1

Status of the recently assessed species and consultation paths

On **October 9, 2019**, COSEWIC submitted 31 assessments of species at risk to the Minister of Environment and Climate Change for species that are eligible to be added to Schedule 1 of SARA. Thirteen of these are terrestrial species, and 17 are aquatic species. COSEWIC also reviewed the classification of species already on Schedule 1, in some cases changing their status. Two terrestrial species are now being considered for down-listing on SARA (to a lower risk status) and one terrestrial species is now being considered for a higher risk status on SARA. In all, 17 terrestrial species that are eligible to be added to Schedule 1, or to have their current status on Schedule 1 changed are included in this consultation (Table 1).

COSEWIC also submitted the reviews of species already on Schedule 1, confirming their classification. Ten of these reviews were for terrestrial species. These species are not included in the consultations because there is no regulatory change being proposed (Table 2).

For more information on the consultations for aquatic species, visit the Fisheries and Oceans Canada website at www.dfo-mpo.gc.ca.

Questions to guide your comments

The following questions are intended to assist you in providing comments on the proposed amendments to the List of Wildlife Species at Risk (refer to the document entitled "The List of Species Eligible for an Amendment to Schedule 1" for the list of species under consultation). They are not limiting, and any other comments you may have are welcome. We also encourage you to share descriptions and estimates of costs or benefits to you or your organization where possible, as well as to propose actions that could be taken for the conservation of these species.

Respondent information

1) Are you responding as
   a) an individual, or
   b) representing a community, business or organization (please specify)?

Species benefits to people or to the ecosystem

2) Do any or all of the species provide benefits to you or Canada's ecosystems? If so, please describe these benefits. If possible, please provide a monetary or quantitative estimate of their values to you.

   For example:

   - Do any or all of the species provide benefits by supporting your livelihood, for example, through harvesting, subsistence or medicine? If yes, can you estimate the extent of these benefits, for example, how often the harvest takes place, the quantity harvested, and the uses of the harvested species (e.g., medicine, food, clothes, etc.)?
   - Do any or all of the species provide cultural or spiritual benefits, for example, recreation, sense of place or tradition? If yes, how?
   - Do any or all of the species provide environmental benefits, for example, pollination, pest control or flood control? If yes, how?

Environment and Climate Change Canada | Environnement et Changement climatique Canada

Canada

Impacts of species listing on your activities and the ecosystem

3) Based on what you know about SARA and the information presented in this document, do you think that amending the List of Wildlife Species at Risk with the proposed listing (Table 1) would have:
   a) no impact on your activities or the species;
   b) a positive impact on your activities or the species; or
   c) a negative impact on your activities or the species.

Please explain your choice above, specifically:

4) Do you think that listing the species would result in cultural, social, or economic costs or benefits to you, your community or your organization?
5) Do you think that listing the species would result in any costs or benefits to the environment or Canada's ecosystems?
6) Based on the maps provided in the species summary document, do any of your current or planned activities overlap with any of the species ranges or occurrences?
7) Are you aware of any current or planned activities (e.g., land conversion for natural resource, industrial, commercial, or residential development) that may have the potential to kill, harm, or harass the species and/or destroy any part of its habitat?
   - If yes, what are these activities, how could they have the potential to affect the species, and/or destroy any part of its habitat?
   - If yes, could you please explain what is being done, planned to be done, or could be done to avoid killing, harming, or harassing the species, or destroying its habitat? Would you also please describe what implications and/or costs may be involved (qualitative or quantitative). Would you personally have to adjust or cease any activities?

Additional information for small businesses

If you are responding for a **small business**, please provide the following details to help Environment and Climate Change Canada gather information to contribute to the required Small Business Lens analysis that forms part of the Regulatory Impact Analysis Statement that will accompany any future listing recommendation.

1. Are you an enterprise that operates in Canada?
2. Do you engage in commercial activities related to the supply of services or property (which includes goods)?
3. Are you an organization that engages in activities for a public purpose (e.g., social welfare or civic improvement), such as a provincial or municipal government, school, college/university, hospital or charity?
4. Is your enterprise owned by a First Nations community?
5. How many employees do you have?
   a) 0–99
   b) 100 or more
6. What was your annual gross revenue in the last year?
   a) Less than $30,000
   b) Between $30,000 and $5 million
   c) More than $5 million

Environment and Climate Change Canada | Environnement et Changement climatique Canada

Canada

Providing comments

The involvement of Canadians is integral to the listing process, as it is to the ultimate protection of Canadian wildlife. Your comments matter and are given serious consideration. Environment and Climate Change Canada will review all the comments that it receives by the deadlines provided below.

Comments for terrestrial species undergoing normal consultations must be received by **May 7, 2020.**

Comments for terrestrial species undergoing extended consultations must be received by **October 7, 2020**.

Most species will be undergoing normal consultations. For a description of the consultation paths these species will undergo, please visit the Species at Risk (SAR) Public Registry website at: https://www.canada.ca/en/environment-climate-change/services/species-risk-act-accord-funding/listing-process/minister-environment-response-assessments-2019.html

For more details on submitting comments, see the section "Comments solicited on the proposed amendment of Schedule 1" in the document entitled "Consultation on Amending the List of Species under the *Species at Risk Act*: Terrestrial Species".

Please email your comments to the Species at Risk Public Registry at: ec.registrelep-sararegistry.ec@canada.ca

Comments may also be mailed to:

Director General, Wildlife Management
Canadian Wildlife Service
Environment and Climate Change Canada
Gatineau QC K1A 0H3

Or you can give your comments by answering the online questionnaire at: https://form.simplesondage.com/f/l/SARA2020

For more information on the *Species at Risk Act*, please visit the Species at Risk Public Registry at: https://www.canada.ca/en/environment-climate-change/services/species-risk-public-registry.html

Environment and Climate Change Canada | Environnement et Changement climatique Canada

Canada

Table 1: Terrestrial species recently assessed by COSEWIC eligible for addition to Schedule 1 or reclassification

Taxon	Species	Scientific Name	Range
Species eligible for addition to Schedule 1 (14)			
Endangered (8)			
Mosses	Carey's Small Limestone Moss	*Seligeria careyana*	BC
Mosses	Dalton's Moss	*Daltonia splachnoides*	BC
Mosses	Drooping–leaved Beard–moss	*Oxystegus recurvifolius*	BC
Vascular Plants	Columbia Quillwort	*Isoetes minima*	BC
Vascular Plants	Dwarf Hesperochiron	*Hesperochiron pumilus*	BC
Vascular Plants	Hairy Valerian	*Valeriana edulis ssp. ciliata*	ON
Vascular Plants	Hairy Paintbrush	*Castilleja tenuis*	BC
Vascular Plants	Ute Ladies'–tresses	*Spiranthes diluvialis*	BC
Threatened (3)			
Birds	Hudsonian Godwit	*Limosa haemastica*	YT NT NU BC AB SK MB ON QC NB PE NS NL
Lichens	White–rimmed Shingle Lichen	*Fuscopannaria leucosticta*	ON QC NB NS
Vascular Plants	Black Ash	*Fraxinus nigra*	MB ON QC NB PE NS NL
Special Concern (3)			
Arthropods	American Bumble Bee	*Bombus pensylvanicus*	ON QC
Arthropods	Yellow Scarab Hunter Wasp	*Dielis pilipes*	BC
Vascular Plants	Yukon Draba	*Draba yukonensis*	YT
Reclassifications: Up-list (1)			
From Special Concern to Threatened (1)			
Lichens	Cryptic Paw Lichen	*Nephroma occultum*	BC
Reclassifications: Down-list or Delist (2)			
From Endangered to Special Concern (1)			
Reptiles	Greater Short-horned Lizard	*Phrynosoma hernandesi*	AB SK
From Threatened to Special Concern (1)			
Vascular Plants	Goldenseal	*Hydrastis canadensis*	ON

Environment and Climate Change Canada | Environnement et Changement climatique Canada

Canada

Table 2: Terrestrial species recently reassessed by COSEWIC (no consultations-species status confirmation)

Taxon	Species	Scientific Name	Range
Status Confirmations (10)			
Extirpated (3)			
Arthropods	Frosted Elfin	*Callophrys irus*	ON
Arthropods	Karner Blue	*Plebejus samuelis*[1]	ON
Reptiles	Pygmy Short-horned Lizard	*Phrynosoma douglasii*	BC
Endangered (3)			
Arthropods	Rapids Clubtail	*Phanogomphus quadricolor*	ON
Mammals	Vancouver Island Marmot	*Marmota vancouverensis*	BC
Vascular Plants	Brook Spike-primrose	*Epilobium torreyi*	BC
Threatened (1)			
Reptiles	Wood Turtle	*Glyptemys insculpta*	ON QC NB NS
Special Concern (3)			
Arthropods	Pale Yellow Dune Moth	*Copablepharon grandis*	AB SK MB
Arthropods	Pygmy Snaketail	*Ophiogomphus howei*	ON NB
Mammals	Polar Bear	*Ursus maritimus*	YT NT NU MB ON QC NL Arctic_Ocean

[1] Scientific name change, currently listed on SARA Annexe 1 as *Lycaeides melissa samuelis*.

Environment and Climate Change Canada | Environnement et Changement climatique Canada

Canada

THE COSEWIC SUMMARIES OF TERRESTRIAL SPECIES ELIGIBLE FOR ADDITION OR RECLASSIFICATION ON SCHEDULE 1

For a brief summary of the reasons for the COSEWIC status designation of individual species, and their biology, threats, distribution and other information, please consult the COSEWIC Summaries of Terrestrial Species Eligible for Addition or Reclassification on Schedule 1 – January 2020 at:

https://species-registry.canada.ca/index-en.html#/documents/3542

For a more comprehensive explanation of the conservation status of an individual species, please refer to the COSEWIC status report for that species, also available on the SAR Public Registry at:

https://wildlife-species.canada.ca/species-risk-registry/sar/assessment/status_e.cfm

or contact:

COSEWIC Secretariat
c/o Canadian Wildlife Service
Environment and Climate Change Canada
Gatineau QC K1A 0H3

Environment and Climate Change Canada | Environnement et Changement climatique Canada

Canada

Carey's Small Limestone Moss

Photo: © Karen Golinski

Scientific name
Seligeria careyana

Taxon
Mosses

COSEWIC status
Endangered

Canadian range
British Columbia

Reason for designation

This small moss is endemic to Canada, where it is known from three widely separated sites on Haida Gwaii, British Columbia. It is a narrow habitat specialist that occurs exclusively on shaded, pure limestone cliffs in areas of hypermaritime climate. This moss has small, fragile spores that severely limits its dispersal ability to new sites. Two of the subpopulations occur in protected areas but the habitat of the third is susceptible to quarrying. All three subpopulations will be affected by climate change, including drought, and at least one is vulnerable to tsunamis and can be expected to be flooded by future sea-level rise.

Wildlife Species Description and Significance

Carey's Small Limestone Moss is a minute, delicate, yellow- to light-green moss that grows in loose colonies on limestone cliffs. The leaves are linear in outline and have a conspicuously long, slender, needle-like point that consists almost entirely of the costa or "midrib" of the leaf. The sporophytes, which are nestled among the tips of the leafy shoots, consist of a short, straight stalk supporting a spore-bearing capsule that is ovate when young but with age becomes cone-shaped and flared at the mouth.

The moss is endemic to Haida Gwaii (formerly known as the Queen Charlotte Islands). It is named for Neil Carey, the captain who transported British Columbia's preeminent bryologist W.B. Schofield throughout the archipelago on collecting trips in the 1960s and 70s. Carey's Small Limestone Moss is recognized as a special element of biodiversity in British Columbia based on its apparent survival in a glacial refugium. Throughout the world, many species of Seligeria are rare, including four of the seven species that occur in British Columbia.

Distribution

Carey's Small Limestone Moss is known from just three sites on Haida Gwaii, all located on northwest Moresby Island. The archipelago is situated approximately 125 km west of the mainland coast of British Columbia.

Canadian range of Carey's small limestone moss

Source: COSEWIC. 2019. COSEWIC assessment and status report on the Carey's small limestone moss (Seligeria careyana) in Canada. Committee on the Status of Endangered Wildlife in Canada. Ottawa. xii + 32 pp.

Habitat

Carey's Small Limestone Moss is a narrow habitat specialist. It is known only from shaded cliffs of Sadler Limestone in the 'Haida Gwaii Variant' of the Very Wet subzone of the Coastal Western Hemlock biogeoclimatic zone. Sadler Limestone is restricted to Haida Gwaii and consists of massive, thick-bedded grey limestones with very high calcium carbonate (CaCO3) content. It is not widely distributed.

Biology

Little is known of the biology of Carey's Small Limestone Moss. The species is monoicous, meaning both male and female gametangia occur on the same gametophyte (shoot). Proximity of male and female reproductive organs facilitates self-fertilization in mosses and typically results in an abundance of spore-containing capsules. The spores of Seligeria are thin-walled, delicate, and short-lived, and are therefore unlikely to persist for long periods of time. The limited longevity of the spores coupled with the species' occurrence on eroding limestone substrates suggests that colonies of Seligeria must reproduce relatively frequently to persist. These factors suggest that the generation time of the species may be in the range of 5–8 years.

The physiology of Carey's Small Limestone Moss has not been studied. Its adaptability is thought to be limited owing to its minute size and high habitat specificity.

The current distribution of Carey's Small Limestone Moss may reflect its survival in a glacial refugium. Dispersal and potential migration are likely constrained by the physical characteristics of spores which are thought to have a very short period of viability. Furthermore, the species' habitat of sheltered cliffs within a matrix of steep coastal topography is not conducive to long-distance dispersal by wind.

Interspecific interactions involving Carey's small limestone moss have not been observed.

Population Sizes and Trends

The global population of Carey's Small Limestone Moss consists of three known subpopulations, all located on the northwest coast of Moresby Island. The type specimen was collected from the narrows at the entrance to Kootenay Inlet in 1966 and the species was last observed at the site in 2017. It was not possible to accurately estimate the number of individuals in the subpopulation in 2017 because the steep, slippery cliffs alongside the narrows plunge straight into deep water and access to the cliffs is very limited. Based on field observations of a single colony and the presence of seemingly-appropriate undisturbed habitat elsewhere on the south side of the narrows in 2017, it is estimated that up to five additional colonies may be present.

In 1966 Schofield collected a specimen of Carey's Small Limestone Moss from Kaisun; the size of the subpopulation was not noted, and the species has not been observed at the site since it was first collected. The exact location of the site is unknown, but the subpopulation is expected to be extant because the area is undisturbed. The site was not visited in 2017 or 2018 owing to weather and budget constraints.

The subpopulation at Tasu consisted of at least two colonies based on herbarium specimens. In 1967, Schofield collected a specimen from the

mountainside cliffs directly above the mining townsite. Since then, the lower- to mid-parts of the mountain have been heavily damaged by mining. Searches for the species in 2017 were unsuccessful and it is presumed that the colony has been extirpated. In 1985, Schofield and J. Spence collected a second specimen from limestone cliffs located above the mine and below the mountain summit outcrops. The second site was not surveyed for the moss in 2017, but the area was undisturbed, therefore the colony was expected to be extant. The size of the subpopulation is unknown.

Given the overall rarity of moss at Haida Gwaii, it's restriction to a substrate that is infrequent on the islands, the extensive search effort for the species on that substrate, and the few colonies found at known sites for the species, it is unlikely that more than 250 colonies exist in Canada.

Overall, Carey's Small Limestone Moss has not been monitored, therefore trends are unknown. The species is endemic to Canada so there is no possibility of "rescue" from outside populations.

Threats and Limiting Factors

The primary threats to Carey's Small Limestone Moss are climate change, quarrying, and tsunamis. The species is extremely vulnerable to the effects of climate change, particularly increased temperatures and reduced precipitation in summer. Predicted shifts in average values of climatic variables mask great fluctuations associated with two cycles: the El Niño / La Niña Southern Oscillation (ENSO), which alternates between warm and cold phases every 3–5 years, and the Pacific Decadal Oscillation (PDO) which cycles between warm and cold phases every 40–60 years. When coupled, climate change and cyclical variation may exceed climatic tolerances of Carey's Small Limestone Moss, which occupies a narrow thermal and hydrological niche in a shaded, humid cliff-habitat. Given its apparent inability to disperse beyond its immediate surroundings and restriction to globally uncommon Sadler Limestone deposits, the species is unlikely to survive future climate scenarios.

Another effect of climate change is sea level rise and increases in the intensity and frequency of coastal storms. The subpopulation at Kootenay Inlet narrows is situated near sea level and is vulnerable to stochastic events like tsunamis and storm surges. The subpopulation at Kaisun may be similarly threatened by tsunamis but its position relative to sea level is unknown.

Quarrying is a major threat to Carey's Small Limestone Moss. There are two active mineral claims on the abandoned quarry and surrounding mineral deposits at Tasu. The mine at Tasu is currently (2019) being actively reworked. Elsewhere on Haida Gwaii, almost half of the area of Sadler Limestone has been modified by forestry activities (Griffiths & Ramsey 2009).

Other factors contributing to the extreme vulnerability of Carey's Small Limestone Moss include the small number of subpopulations; the species' highly limited dispersal capability related to the delicacy of its spores; the long distances between subpopulations; and the small size of the shoots, which limits its competitive ability among other species.

Protection, Status and Ranks

Carey's Small Limestone Moss has no legal protection or status under the federal Species at Risk Act, the British Columbia Wildlife Act, or any other legislation Canada. Its global conservation rank is Imperiled, and at the national level in Canada it is ranked Critically Imperiled. At the provincial level in British Columbia it is similarly ranked Critically Imperiled and is included on the province's 'Red List'.

Two of the subpopulations of Carey's Small Limestone Moss are located within the Daawuuxusda Haida Heritage Site and Province of British Columbia Conservancy. The third subpopulation is on Crown land.

Source: COSEWIC. 2019. COSEWIC assessment and status report on the Carey's small limestone moss (*Seligeria careyana*) in Canada. Committee on the Status of Endangered Wildlife in Canada. Ottawa. xii + 32 pp.

For more information, please visit www.sararegistry.gc.ca.

For information regarding reproduction rights, please contact Environment and Climate Change Canada's Public Inquiries Centre at 1-800-668-6767 (in Canada only) or 819-997-2800 or email to ec.enviroinfo.ec@canada.ca

Environment and Climate Change Canada | Environnement et Changement climatique Canada

Canada

Columbia Quillwort

Photo: © Ryan Batten

Scientific name
Isoetes minima

Taxon
Vascular Plants

COSEWIC status
Endangered

Canadian range
British Columbia

Reason for designation

This relative of the ferns grows in thin, acidic substrate over steeply sloping bedrock. It occurs in spring ephemeral seepages in otherwise dry coniferous forest glades. A rare Pacific Northwest endemic, the species is known in Canada from four subpopulations in extreme southern British Columbia (Castlegar area), all of which have been discovered since 1996. As of 2017, there were 1,145 plants (1,019 mature) known in Canada. Reductions in habitat quality and quantity have resulted from recreational activities (specifically mountain biking), and from establishment of non-native plants, such as Spotted Knapweed. All Canadian sites are on Provincial Crown Land and where logging of surrounding areas and/or road building activity could change site hydrology with potential negative impacts on this species. Limited genetic diversity is expected in this population.

Wildlife Species Description and Significance

Columbia Quillwort (Isoetes minima) is a perennial fern ally (pteridophyte) and has small, green, simple, quill-like leaves arising from a globose rootstock. The leaves are swollen at the base where the reproductive microspores and megaspores are contained within sporangia.

Distribution

Columbia Quillwort is a globally rare endemic in the Pacific Northwest. In Canada, Columbia Quillwort is known from southern British Columbia in the Monashee and Selkirk Mountains within a 25 km radius of Castlegar. Columbia Quillwort is known in the United States from five sites in Washington, Idaho and Oregon.

Canadian distribution of Columbia Quillwort

Source: COSEWIC. 2019. COSEWIC assessment and status report on the Columbia Quillwort (Isoetes minima) in Canada. Committee on the Status of Endangered Wildlife in Canada. Ottawa. xi+ 32 pp.

Habitat

Columbia Quillwort grows in shallow soil in spring seepage in open, east to southsloping glades within forested areas at 700 - 1160 m asl. The

plants grow out of thick moss mats or in bare exposed soil.

Biology

Columbia Quillwort leaves emerge in the spring and the lifecycle is closely connected to moisture availability. The plants produce thousands of small microspores and hundreds of megaspores between May and early July. Immature individuals have been noted at all Canadian sites.

Population Sizes and Trends

Four subpopulations are known in Canada, all found between 1996 and 2017. In 2017, 1145 plants (including 1019 mature individuals) were counted at four subpopulations.

Threats and Limiting Factors

All known subpopulations occur on provincial crown land. Logging is planned for the parcel with the two largest subpopulations. Upslope logging and road building may alter hydrologic patterns, impacting downslope seepage and encouraging the spread of nonnative invasive plants. The most serious non-native competitor is Spotted Knapweed which competes with Columbia Quillwort for water and other resources at all sites. More severe droughts associated with climate change may impact on spore production. Shrub and conifer encroachment associated with succession will degrade habitat over time. Recreational activities including mountain biking and hiking may also have negative impacts on Columbia Quillwort plants and their habitat. Small isolated populations can suffer from limited genetic diversity and inbreeding depression.

Photo: © Ryan Batten

Protection, Status and Ranks

Columbia Quillwort currently has no legal protection in Canada. In British Columbia, it is red-listed and ranked S1—Critically Imperilled (2015). It is also nationally ranked as Critically Imperilled (N1). All known existing subpopulations occur on provincial crown land.

Source: COSEWIC. 2019. COSEWIC assessment and status report on the Columbia Quillwort (*Isoetes minima*) in Canada. Committee on the Status of Endangered Wildlife in Canada. Ottawa. xi+ 32 pp.

For more information, please visit www.sararegistry.gc.ca.

For information regarding reproduction rights, please contact Environment and Climate Change Canada's Public Inquiries Centre at 1-800-668-6767 (in Canada only) or 819-997-2800 or email to ec.enviroinfo.ec@canada.ca

Environment and Climate Change Canada | Environnement et Changement climatique Canada

Canada

Cryptic Paw Lichen

Photo: © Stephen Sharnoff

Scientific name
Nephroma occultum

Taxon
Lichens

COSEWIC status
Threatened

Canadian range
British Columbia

Reason for designation

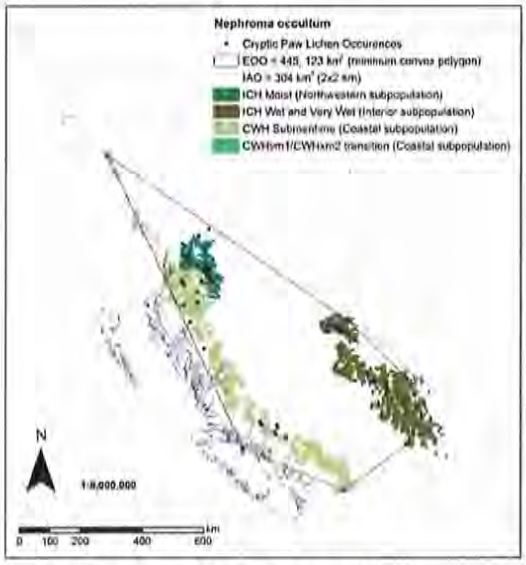
This leafy lichen is endemic to western North America. In Canada the total estimated population is approximately 12,000 individuals. The species has specific habitat requirements, growing in humid old coastal and interior cedar-hemlock forests that have depressions kept moist by input from groundwater. The lichen reproduces only by vegetative propagules with limited capability for dispersal. The species is threatened by habitat loss as a result of forest harvesting, and by climate change leading to altered patterns of winter precipitation and warmer drier summers that can enhance the frequency and severity of fires. The IUCN Threats assessment calculator result for this species was Very High to High.

Wildlife Species Description and Significance

Cryptic Paw Lichen, Nephroma occultum, is a rare lichen endemic to western North America. It is strongly associated with humid old-growth forests and is characterized by a yellowish, greenish, or bluish-grey upper surface with net-shaped ridges, and a hairless tan to sometimes blackish lower surface. Thalli are commonly 2-7 cm broad with rounded lobes 4-12 mm wide. It produces asexual propagules called soredia along the margins and the ridges of the upper surface. It lacks apothecia, the spore-producing sexual stage of reproduction in lichens. Cryptic Paw Lichen is a readily identifiable macrolichen with a common habitat requirement. It is a "flagship" species for a suite of rare and uncommon lichens and bryophytes that are dependent on humid, old-growth forests, many of which exhibit an unusual coastal-inland disjunct distribution.

Distribution

The global distribution of Cryptic Paw Lichen is within the geographic boundaries of Alaska, British Columbia, Washington and Oregon. The Canadian portion of the range accounts for about 70% of the estimated total world population, and more than 50% of the total spatial distribution.



Canadian range of Cryptic Paw Lichen

Source: COSEWIC. 2019. COSEWIC assessment and status report on the Cryptic Paw Lichen (Nephroma occultum) in Canada. Committee on the Status of Endangered Wildlife in Canada. Ottawa. xiv+ 67 pp.

Habitat

In Canada, Cryptic Paw Lichen is confined to moist old forests at elevations below 1,000 m. Absence of summer drought is a key requirement for Cryptic Paw Lichen survival. In British Columbia this requirement is met in oceanic old forests and humid continental old forests. The three Canadian subpopulations occur in the Coastal Western Hemlock (CWH) and the Interior Cedar–Hemlock (ICH) biogeoclimatic zones.

Biology

Cryptic Paw Lichen produces large numbers of asexual soredia which are thought to be dispersed by wind, rain and animals. The soredia of the Cryptic Paw Lichen are larger than those of most lichens, with poor propagule dispersal, a likely limiting factor in the establishment and spread of this lichen. Cryptic Paw Lichen does not have sexual structures (apothecia) and appears to have undergone a past genetic bottleneck event. Furthermore, it is a poor competitor and is easily displaced by mosses or liverworts.

Population Sizes and Trends

Habitat-based models estimated a total Canadian population for the Cryptic Paw Lichen of 11,202 individuals (thalli), distributed between three subpopulations: the Interior B.C. subpopulation (1,351 thalli), the Northwestern B.C. (Kispiox region) subpopulation (2,294 thalli), and the Coastal B.C. subpopulation (7,557 thalli). Counts of known thalli from past collections and surveys are much lower, with 82, 524, and 600 - 1,800 thalli from each of these three subpopulations, respectively. Another 419 thalli were recorded from the Northwestern subpopulation in the Kispiox region. These were enumerated during preharvest surveys conducted in planned cutblocks. Many of these thalli may no longer exist due to forestry activities. The difference between numbers of known and predicted thalli for each of these three subpopulations reflects the fact that there are areas of remote terrain that have not been visited by lichen specialists. The coastal subpopulation extends southwards into Washington State (WA) and Oregon (OR), where 700 thalli are known from 365 occurrences. A small population with six occurrences has been documented in Alaska.

The three Canadian subpopulations thus represent a majority of the global population. After accounting for threats posed by direct and indirect habitat loss, mainly related to logging of old forests, population estimates predict that declines of over 30% are likely to occur in all subpopulations over the next three generations (60 years).

Threats and Limiting Factors

Cryptic Paw Lichen is limited by the availability of suitable habitat (humid old-growth forests) and poor dispersal efficiency. The most common host trees are Western Hemlock, Subalpine fir and Hybrid White Spruce in the Interior and Northwestern subpopulations, while in the Coastal subpopulation, Cryptic Paw Lichen

occurs on Sitka Spruce and Pacific silver fir. Humid, old-growth cedar-hemlock forests have diminished in abundance with the progressive expansion of forest harvesting. The looming mid-term timber supply crisis in the B.C. interior, brought about by the Mountain Pine Beetle epidemic in adjacent ecosystems of the central-interior plateau, will accelerate the rate of logging in forests of the Interior and Northwestern subpopulations over the next sixty years. Current planning assumptions for annual allowable cut projections suggest that a majority of old forests in the timber harvesting land base within each of these three subpopulation regions will be converted to second-growth stands within sixty years. Many of the remaining protected areas will consist largely of unsuitable "edge" habitats as logging progresses, reducing the planned conservation value for the Cryptic Paw Lichen. Seventy-six percent of Kispiox Oldgrowth Management areas, for instance, are predicted to become edge habitat due to their irregular and often elongate shapes and the proximity of adjacent clearcuts. Additional losses of thalli are expected from climate change and related increases in the frequency and severity of fires and insect outbreaks, leading to the death of host trees.

Protection, Status and Ranks

Cryptic Paw Lichen was designated a species of Special Concern by COSEWIC in 1995. This was reconfirmed in 2006. In British Columbia it is a Blue Listed species ranked S2S3 (Imperilled to Special Concern), with a management plan prepared in February 2011. In Washington and Oregon the Cryptic Paw Lichen is listed respectively as S1 (Critically Imperilled) and S3 (Vulnerable). The Cryptic Paw Lichen also occurs in Alaska where it is not ranked.

Twenty of the 78 known Canadian occurrences of the Cryptic Paw Lichen occur within B.C. provincial parks and protected areas. An occurrence is defined as a site where the lichen is growing on one or more trees and this site is more than 1 km from a second group of colonized trees. Thirteen of the occurrences are within the recently designated Ancient Forest/Chun T'oh Whudujut Provincial Park. In the Northwestern B.C. (Kispiox/Kalum) subpopulation, two of 21 occurrences are within provincial parks. The remainder are in timber supply areas (TSA). Some of the TSA occurrences will become Old-growth Management Areas (OGMA) and/or Wildlife Tree retention patches which provide limited forms of protection.

Source: COSEWIC. 2019. COSEWIC assessment and status report on the Cryptic Paw Lichen (*Nephroma occultum*) in Canada. Committee on the Status of Endangered Wildlife in Canada. Ottawa. xiv+ 67 pp.

For more information, please visit www.sararegistry.gc.ca.

For information regarding reproduction rights, please contact Environment and Climate Change Canada's Public Inquiries Centre at 1-800-668-6767 (in Canada only) or 819-997-2800 or email to ec.enviroinfo.ec@canada.ca

Environment and Climate Change Canada | Environnement et Changement climatique Canada

Canada

Dalton's Moss

Photo: © Matthew Cicanese

[1]

Scientific name
Daltonia splachnoides

Taxon
Mosses

COSEWIC status
Endangered

Canadian range
British Columbia

Reason for designation

This small moss is known from three sites in North America. It occurs at one remote site in Canada in the hypermaritime temperate rainforests of Haida Gwaii, British Columbia, where it is an epiphyte on native shrubs and trees. It requires very wet conditions to survive. It is threatened by habitat loss and modification linked to climate change and to extreme browsing of understory shrubs by introduced, invasive Sitka Black-tailed Deer.

Wildlife Species Description and Significance

Dalton's Moss (Daltonia splachnoides) is a small, glossy yellow-green to bronzecoloured moss with reddish stems and linear-lanceolate leaves. The leaves are untoothed, have a yellowish border, and a ridged costa ('midrib') that almost reaches the leaf tip. The sporophytes consist of a red stalk and a small, brown, upright, cylindric-ovoid capsule with a short neck and a contracted base. The highly distinctive calyptra (hood-like structure covering the lid of the capsule) is pale and conspicuously fringed.
The species is one of several bryophytes of biogeographic interest that in Canada are confined to the outer west coast of British Columbia.

Distribution

Dalton's Moss is known from just two sites in British Columbia, both located on Haida Gwaii (formerly known as the Queen Charlotte Islands). Its global distribution has been characterized as "hyperoceanic southern–temperate". Elsewhere in North America, it is known from California (San Francisco County, where it may have been introduced with transplanted host plants from Australia), Mexico, and the West Indies. It has also been recorded from Central America, South America, the Atlantic Islands, Great Britain (Ireland, Scotland), Asia (China), the Pacific Islands (New Zealand), and Australia.

[1] Due to the nature of these images and their context in relation to the licensor's work, any usage by 3rd parties for distribution (editorial articles, television, internet videos, etc.) requires separate licensing apart from this document.

Please direct all license inquires as follows: Subject: "RE: Dalton's Moss Images / Request for Image License"
Body: (explain requested usage & timelines)

Canadian range of Dalton's Moss

Source: COSEWIC. 2019. COSEWIC assessment and status report on the Dalton's Moss (Daltonia splachnoides) in Canada. Committee on the Status of Endangered Wildlife in Canada. Ottawa. xl+ 42 pp.

Habitat

In British Columbia, Dalton's Moss is an epiphyte on deciduous shrubs and coniferous trees in humid, rich forests near sea level in the 'Haida Gwaii variant' of the Very Wet Hypermaritime subzone of the Coastal Western Hemlock biogeoclimatic zone (CWHvh3). In some places, such as Scotland, it also occurs on rocks and soil near streams and in the spray zones of waterfalls.

Biology

The reproductive biology of Dalton's Moss is poorly known. The species is monoicous, meaning that both male and female reproductive organs occur on the same shoots—a condition that promotes self-fertilization and the production of sporophytes. Asexual reproductive structures occur infrequently but have not been observed in Canadian specimens.

The lifespan of an epiphytic moss is limited by that of its host; therefore a species like Dalton's Moss must reproduce and disperse with sufficient frequency for a subpopulation to persist. The estimated lifespan of Dalton's Moss is 9–18 years (based on the approximate lifespan of the associated shrubs once they have reached maturity and have developed branches and a leafy canopy), with an average generation time of 3–6 years.

The small size of the local population of Dalton's Moss and the globally disjunct pattern of distribution of the species suggests that dispersal is hindered by one or more unknown factors. These may be biological, such as poor viability and/or survivability of the spores; ecological; or geographical, including limits to long-distance dispersal related to the moss's sheltered habitat and topographic barriers between rich, highly humid sites.

The adaptability of Dalton's Moss is unknown. However, it currently persists on Haida Gwaii in a site that has experienced overgrazing by introduced Sitka Black-tailed Deer and where its original host-plant is not currently found, suggesting that the species has adapted to an alternative host.

Population Sizes and Trends

The Canadian population of Dalton's Moss consists of two subpopulations: one at Bigsby Inlet that is currently composed of an estimated 50 colonies distributed among ~10 branches of a single shrub; and a second at Mercer Lake that is known from a few strands of the moss intermixed with other bryophytes in a herbarium specimen collected in 1969 that is considered to be extirpated based on three targeted searches.

The potential for finding additional subpopulations in British Columbia is low. Bryologists have collected extensively throughout Haida Gwaii over the past 70 years, but additional subpopulations have not been found.

Population trends are unknown and can only be determined through monitoring.

Threats and Limiting Factors

The three most significant threats to Dalton's Moss are extensive browsing of understory vegetation by introduced Sitka Black-tailed Deer, climate change and associated sea level rise, and stochastic events such as landslides. Both subpopulations are located within protected areas so should not be affected by logging or water level manipulation, including installation of hydroelectric dams. Although the subpopulation at Bigsby Inlet is <1 m above sea level it is located at the head of the inlet and is sheltered from storm surges by offshore islands.

Rescue from outside populations such as the one located in California is extremely unlikely because of the long distances between sites.

Protection, Status and Ranks

Dalton's Moss is not currently protected under the federal Species at Risk Act, the British Columbia Wildlife Act, or any other legislation in Canada.

Its global status is Critically Imperiled, as are its national status in Canada and its provincial status in British Columbia. The species is included in British Columbia's 'Red List'.

In Great Britain, it is included in the list of nationally rare bryophytes, and in Europe it is a candidate for the 'Red List of European Bryophytes'.

Source: COSEWIC. 2019. COSEWIC assessment and status report on the Dalton's Moss (*Daltonia splachnoides*) in Canada. Committee on the Status of Endangered Wildlife in Canada. Ottawa. xi+ 42 pp.

For more information, please visit www.sararegistry.gc.ca.

For information regarding reproduction rights, please contact Environment and Climate Change Canada's Public Inquiries Centre at 1-800-668-6767 (in Canada only) or 819-997-2800 or email to ec.enviroinfo.ec@canada.ca

Environment and Climate Change Canada | Environnement et Changement climatique Canada

Canada

Drooping-leaved Beard-moss

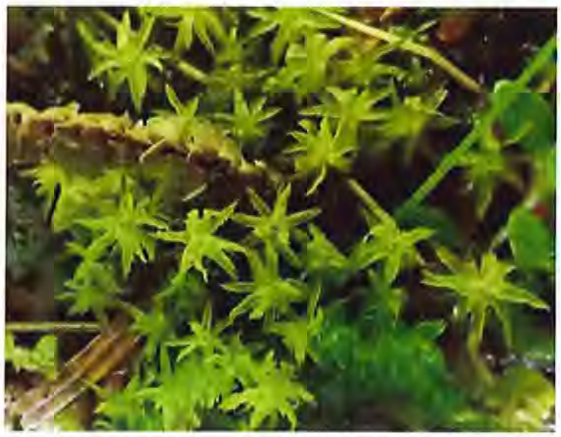


Photo: © Wynne Miles

Scientific name
Oxystegus recurvifolius

Taxon
Mosses

COSEWIC status
Endangered

Canadian range
British Columbia

Reason for designation

This moss has a very restricted distribution in Canada, where it is known from one extirpated subpopulation and four extant subpopulations on Haida Gwaii in British Columbia. The nearest population outside Canada is >2900 km away on Adak Island in the north Pacific Ocean. The species has a narrow physiological niche and grows only in extreme oceanic and highly humid climates. It is rare throughout its disjunct global range. Key threats to the species include climate change (particularly at high elevation), landslides, introduced invasive Sitka Black-tailed Deer, and logging. The species is not expected to adapt to predicted climate change, and migration in response to climate change is inhibited by the lack of effective means of reproduction and dispersal.

Wildlife Species Description and Significance

Drooping-leaved Beard-moss (Oxystegus recurvifolius) is a pale, yellowish-green moss that typically grows on moist, organic soil. Characteristics distinguishing it from closely-related species include the oblong strap-shaped leaves with light-coloured margins, and leaf apices that bend downward and are sharply and irregularly toothed.

In British Columbia, the species is recognized as a special element of biodiversity based on its rarity and highly restricted distribution. The Canadian population accounts for an estimated one fifth of the global population. The species is also known from Adak Island in the Aleutian Island archipelago of Alaska; coastal Ireland, England, Wales, and Scotland; and the High Himalaya region of Nepal. The globally disjunct "northwestern Europe–Sino-Himalayan–northwestern North American" pattern of distribution is rare in mosses. Phylogenetic relationships among the populations have not been studied but are of great scientific interest.

Distribution

In Canada, Drooping-leaved Beard-moss is known from just five sites on the west coast of Haida Gwaii (previously known as the Queen Charlotte Islands) in British Columbia: Mercer Lake, on Graham Island, and Mount Moresby, Moresby Lake, Takakia Lake, and Newcombe Inlet on Moresby Island. The Moresby Lake subpopulation was not relocated during recent targeted searches and appears to have been extirpated by hydroelectric development.

Canadian distribution of Drooping-leaved Beard-moss

Source: COSEWIC. 2019. COSEWIC assessment and status report on the Drooping-leaved Beard-moss (Oxystegus recurvifolius) in Canada. Committee on the Status of Endangered Wildlife in Canada. Ottawa. xii+ 48 pp.

Habitat

Drooping-leaved Beard-moss occurs on cliff shelves, talus slopes, lake margins, and streambanks influenced by base-rich seepage on western Graham and Moresby islands. The temperate climate is characterized by cool temperatures and high rainfall throughout much of the year. Low cloud and fog are common, and dry spells are rare.

Biology

The reproductive biology of Drooping-leaved Beard-moss has not been well-studied, but the moss is known to be dioicous, meaning that male and female reproductive organs occur on separate gametophytes (shoots). Throughout its global range, only female plants have been found. Like many species of mosses that are thought to be relictual, sporophytes are unknown.

The life history strategy of Drooping-leaved Beard-moss closely resembles that of a "perennial stayer", which are characterized by a long lifespan and low sexual reproductive effort. There is a strong association between the inability to produce spores and rarity: species that are dispersal-limited must maintain local populations through long-lived shoots. The lifespan of gametophytic shoots of Drooping-leaved Beard-moss has not been studied but is estimated to be approximately 20 years based on the "perennial stayer" life history strategy, and the average age of individuals within colonies is estimated to be approximately 7–12 years.

Based on the absence of an efficient means of dispersal and its narrow physiological habitat niche, the adaptability of Drooping-leaved Beard-moss is expected to be low.

Population Sizes and Trends

The Canadian population of Drooping-leaved Beard-moss is composed of five known subpopulations. Based on a targeted search in 2017, one of the subpopulations appears to have been extirpated as the result of hydroelectric development. Three subpopulations are thought to be extant, and the status of another is unknown. Historical population sizes were not recorded but herbarium specimens collected between 1964 and 1975 indicate there were at least eight colonies among the five subpopulations. Currently there are thought to be 10–12 extant colonies among three or four subpopulations.

Threats and Limiting Factors

The primary threats to Drooping-leaved Beard-moss in Canada are climate change, landslides, browsing of co-occurring grasses by introduced invasive Sitka black-tailed deer, and logging.

The species is limited by multiple factors including a narrow habitat niche throughout its global range and the absence of viable means of reproduction and dispersal, which exposes it to stochastic disturbances and inhibits migration in response to climate change.

Rescue from the Alaskan population on Adak Island, located >2900 km west of Haida Gwaii in the north Pacific Ocean, is extremely unlikely.

Protection, Status and Ranks

Drooping-leaved Beard-moss has no legal protection or status in Canada. In British Columbia it is ranked 'Vulnerable' and is included in the province's 'Blue List'. At the national level it is ranked 'Imperiled'. Two of the Canadian subpopulations occur within protected areas: the Mercer Lake subpopulation is located in the VJ Krajina Ecological Reserve, and the Takakia Lake subpopulation is encompassed by the SGaay Taw Siiwaay K'adjuu Heritage Site/Conservancy.

The global conservation rank of Drooping-leaved Beard-moss is 'Vulnerable'. In Europe it has been designated as 'Rare'. Its status in Ireland is 'Not threatened' but the species is included in the Irish Red List (as Paraleptodontium recurvifolium (Taylor) D.G. Long) in recognition of the country's "special responsibility". In Great Britain it is 'Scarce'.

Source: COSEWIC. 2019. COSEWIC assessment and status report on the Drooping-leaved Beard-moss (*Oxystegus recurvifolius*) in Canada. Committee on the Status of Endangered Wildlife in Canada. Ottawa. xii+ 48 pp.

For more information, please visit www.sararegistry.gc.ca.

For information regarding reproduction rights, please contact Environment and Climate Change Canada's Public Inquiries Centre at 1-800-668-6767 (in Canada only) or 819-997-2800 or email to ec.enviroinfo.ec@canada.ca

Environment and Climate Change Canada | Environnement et Changement climatique Canada

Canada

Dwarf hesperochiron

Photo: © Ryan Batten

Scientific name
Hesperochiron pumilus

Taxon
Vascular Plants

COSEWIC status
Endangered

Canadian range
British Columbia

Reason for designation

This small, perennial plant is restricted to seasonally wet montane forest openings at four sites in a small area of southeastern British Columbia. The total number of mature individuals is very small (under 200). All Canadian sites are on Provincial Crown Land and potentially subject to logging of surrounding areas and/or road building activity with subsequent changes to site hydrology. Negative impact on the thin substrate by mountain-biking activity has been noted close to one occurrence. Competition from non-native plants, most notably Spotted Knapweed, is the most significant threat expected to lead to habitat degradation over time. Drought and atypically intensive natural fire, as per climate change projections, could potentially damage or eliminate one or more occurrences within three generations.

Wildlife Species Description and Significance

Dwarf Hesperochiron is a perennial, herbaceous plant that grows up to 10 cm tall from a slender stem connected to smaller offshoots by thin, fragile rhizomes. The generally hairless simple leaves grow in a basal rosette. There are from one to eight solitary, showy flowers per plant. The flowers are 1-3 cm wide, 5-lobed, with white petals and hairy, yellow throats. There are often striking purple markings on the petals. The fruits are oval capsules with many small seeds. Dwarf Hesperochiron is a showy species and a desirable horticultural plant. Although it is widespread in the western United States, it is rare in Canada and is at the northern limit of its range.

Distribution

In Canada, Dwarf Hesperochiron is restricted to the Selkirk and Monashee mountains in southern British Columbia, where it is known from four subpopulations within a 25 km radius of Castlegar. It is widespread throughout the western United States from Washington, south to California and east to Arizona, Wyoming, and Montana.

Canadian distribution of Dwarf hesperochiron

Source: COSEWIC. 2019. COSEWIC assessment and status report on the Dwarf hesperochiron (Hesperochiron pumilus) in Canada. Committee on the Status of Endangered Wildlife in Canada. Ottawa. x+ 32 pp.

Photo: © Ryan Batten

Habitat

Dwarf Hesperochiron grows in small meadows with shallow bedrock outcroppings within a larger forested matrix. Plants grow at the edge of seepages in loamy soils that are over 20 cm deep. The slope position ranges from middle to lower slope with slopes varying from 5-40 degrees. Aspect ranges from east to south and the elevation is from 719-1169 m. Dwarf Hesperochiron grows on soil that is saturated with water in the early spring and is easily compacted or sloughed away by trampling. Dwarf Hesperochiron often grows in bare, exposed soil or with a sparse cover of forbs and bryophytes. Shrubs are usually absent, although they may be present at the edges of the seeps.

Biology

Dwarf Hesperochiron is associated with spring seepage and it flowers and sets seed when moisture is available. In British Columbia, plants flower in May and the short-lived flowers are pollinated by mining and sweat bees. Seeds appear to require cold stratification for germination. Dwarf Hesperochiron plants produce multiple ramets that are connected by slender rhizomes that can become separated from the parent plant.

Population Sizes and Trends

In 2017, there were 168 mature flowering plants plus approximately 4360 smaller nonflowering ramets (mostly consisting of one leaf). The non-flowering plants are presumed to be offshoots connected to the main plant but may also be immature seedlings. Dwarf Hesperochiron was found in four distinct subpopulations separated by greater than one kilometre. Population fluctuations and trends for this species are unknown.

Threats and Limiting Factors

All known subpopulations occur on provincial crown land. Logging is planned for the parcel with the two largest subpopulations. Upslope logging and road building may alter hydrologic patterns, impacting downslope seepage and encouraging the spread of nonnative invasive plants. The most serious non-native competitor is Spotted Knapweed, which competes with Dwarf Hesperochiron for water and other resources. Shrub and conifer encroachment associated with succession will degrade habitat over time. Recreational activities, including mountain biking and hiking, can increase compaction, trample

plants and dislodge soil and associated plants. Well-worn trails can alter hydrology, diverting flows from seepage areas. Small isolated populations can suffer from limited genetic diversity and inbreeding depression.

Protection, Status and Ranks

Dwarf Hesperochiron currently has no legal protection in Canada. In British Columbia, Dwarf Hesperochiron is red-listed and ranked Imperilled—S2 (2017). In Canada, it is nationally ranked N2 (Imperilled) with a global rank of G4 (Apparently Secure). In Canada, all four currently known subpopulations are on provincial crown land. It is SNR (unranked) nationally in the United States.

Source: COSEWIC. 2019. COSEWIC assessment and status report on the Dwarf hesperochiron (*Hesperochiron pumilus*) in Canada. Committee on the Status of Endangered Wildlife in Canada. Ottawa. x+ 32 pp.

For more information, please visit www.sararegistry.gc.ca.

For information regarding reproduction rights, please contact Environment and Climate Change Canada's Public Inquiries Centre at 1-800-668-6767 (in Canada only) or 819-997-2800 or email to ec.enviroinfo.ec@canada.ca

Environment and Climate Change Canada | Environnement et Changement climatique Canada

Canada

Hairy Paintbrush

Photo: © Ryan Batten

Scientific Name
Castellija tenuis

Taxon
Vascular Plants

COSEWIC Status
Endangered

Canadian Range
British Columbia

Reason for designation

This delicate annual plant is a spring ephemeral of sparsely vegetated seepages over steeply sloping bedrock in otherwise dry coniferous forest glades. It is only known from one site in Canada. Competition from non-native plants, most notably Spotted Knapweed, is the most significant observable threat. Limited genetic diversity is expected within this isolated population. Potential exists for increased drought and natural fire (as per climate change projections) to damage or eliminate the population within three generations. As a hemiparasite, it is further threatened due to detrimental climate change impacts on its host.

Wildlife Species Description and Significance

Hairy Paintbrush is a delicate annual plant, 4.5-30 (rarely up to 52) cm tall, arising from a slender taproot or branched root system. Stems are covered with a mixture of short hairs and soft spreading long hairs. Lower leaves are linear to lanceolate; upper leaves are 0-3 (rarely 5) lobed; both leaf surfaces are coarsely hairy. Flowers are arranged in a terminal spike, with green lanceolate to ovate floral bracts with pointed tips. The white to yellow corolla (fused petals) is tubular, 12-20 mm long, and 2-lipped. The upper lip ends in a straight beak-like tip, while the lower lip is inflated, 3-lobed, and pouch-like.

Distribution

The Canadian distribution of Hairy Paintbrush is a single site between Salmo and Castlegar, in southern British Columbia. In the United States, it occurs from California through Oregon to Washington and east as far as Nevada and Idaho.

Canadian distribution of Hairy Paintbrush

Source : COSEWIC. 2019. COSEWIC assessment and status report on the Hairy Paintbrush Castilleja tenuis in Canada. Committee on the Status of Endangered Wildlife in Canada. Ottawa. x + 29 pp.

Photo: © Ryan Batten

Habitat

In Canada, Hairy Paintbrush occurs in a small glade with spring seepage surrounded by forest. It grows in shallow soils (average 10 cm deep) with scattered surface rock. The habitat is full sun with a southern aspect and an elevation of 870 metres. The slope is 10 degrees and slope position is upper to mid-slope. Microsites are well-drained and receive additional nutrients from flowing seepage water. Hairy Paintbrush microsites have sparse vegetation cover of herbs and many of the plants grow directly out of thick moss mats. Shrubs and trees grow at the edge of the meadow.

Biology

Germination occurs in the spring and the seeds likely require a period of cold stratification to germinate. Hairy Paintbrush flowers from mid-June to mid-July and the flowers are adapted for bee pollination. Hairy Paintbrush are either diploid or tetraploid. The plants are probably hemiparasitic, forming root grafts with other species via haustoria that penetrate the root cortex of host plants. Specific hosts for Hairy Paintbrush have not been identified, but a range of host plants can be used by each species of other hemiparasitic Castilleja.

Population Sizes and Trends

In 2000, Frank Lomer collected the first voucher specimen from a Canadian site, and it remains the only known location in Canada. In 2017, 57 plants were counted.

Threats and Limiting Factors

Invasive non-native plants, in particular Spotted Knapweed (Centaurea stoebe ssp. micranthos), compete for water and other resources. Shrub and conifer encroachment associated with successional processes will degrade habitat over time. Hemiparasites are especially sensitive to climate change because changes to temperature and CO2 will impact both the hemiparasite and their host plants. Small isolated populations can suffer from limited genetic diversity and inbreeding depression.

Protection, Status and Ranks

Hairy Paintbrush currently has no legal protection in Canada. In British Columbia, it is red-listed and is ranked S1–critically imperilled (2017). Nationally it is ranked N1 (critically imperilled). It is not ranked at the national level in the United States and is considered globally secure (G5). The only known site in Canada occurs on provincial crown land.

Source : COSEWIC. 2019. COSEWIC assessment and status report on the Hairy Paintbrush *Castilleja tenuis* in Canada. Committee on the Status of Endangered Wildlife in Canada. Ottawa. x + 29 pp.

For more information, please visit www.sararegistry.gc.ca.

For information regarding reproduction rights, please contact Environment and Climate Change Canada's Public Inquiries Centre at 1-800-668-6767 (in Canada only) or 819-997-2800 or email to ec.enviroinfo.ec@canada.ca

Environment and Climate Change Canada | Environnement et Changement climatique Canada

Canada

Hudsonian Godwit

Photo: © Holly Bickerton

Scientific name
Limosa haemastica

Taxon
Birds

COSEWIC status
Threatened

Canadian range
Yukon, Northwest Territories, Nunavut, British Columbia, Alberta, Saskatchewan, Manitoba, Ontario, Québec, New Brunswick, Prince Edward Island, Nova Scotia, Newfoundland and Labrador

Reason for designation

This large Arctic-nesting shorebird is poorly monitored on its known breeding grounds in the Hudson Bay Lowlands, Mackenzie Delta, and Alaska. However, both migration monitoring and winter surveys indicate substantial population declines over the past two to three generations. Key threats include reduced suitability of nesting habitat and changes in prey availability arising from climate change, and overgrazing by abundant geese in the Hudson Bay Lowlands, as well as loss of habitat and disturbance on the wintering grounds in South America.

Wildlife Species Description and Significance

Hudsonian Godwit is a large, long-legged shorebird with a long, slightly upturned bill. The species exhibits sexual dimorphism in both size and plumage, with females larger and heavier than males and paler overall in breeding plumage. Males have distinctive red chest colouring during the breeding season, while females are a lighter rufous colour. Both males and females are greyish-brown in non-breeding plumage.

Spatial segregation and genetic differentiation provide evidence for potential subdivision of Hudsonian Godwit into three designatable units (DUs), corresponding to breeding subpopulations in the Hudson Bay Lowlands, Mackenzie Delta, and Alaska, respectively. Although there are also three primary wintering areas in South America that are believed to generally correspond to the separate breeding subpopulations, the linkages between breeding and wintering grounds remain only partially understood and there is evidence of individuals moving among the wintering regions. Considering also the limited sample size of genetic studies to date, the potential extent of exchange of individuals among breeding subpopulations is uncertain. Therefore, currently available evidence is considered to be insufficient to delineate evolutionarily distinct populations of Hudsonian Godwit in Canada, and the species is assessed as a single DU.

Hudsonian Godwit was for many decades considered one of North America's rarest birds because it was seldom seen. It has one of the longest migration routes among Western Hemisphere shorebirds, and covers much of the distance through non-stop flights spanning multiple days.

Distribution

Hudsonian Godwit breeds in sub-Arctic and Boreal regions of Canada and Alaska and overwinters in the southernmost regions of South America. Some local breeding sites may remain undiscovered. The main known breeding areas in Canada are along the Hudson Bay Lowlands in Manitoba and Ontario, and in the Mackenzie Delta, Northwest Territories. In Alaska, breeding is known from four areas in the central, western, and southern parts of the state.

Within Canada, the primary staging areas on southbound migration are the coast of James Bay for birds from the Hudson Bay Lowlands and Mackenzie Delta, and prairie lakes in Saskatchewan for birds from Alaska. Migrants then fly long distances east and southward over the Atlantic Ocean, often stopping at staging areas in northern or central South America for up to several weeks before continuing to wintering grounds farther south. Breeding subpopulations are believed to largely be associated with separate wintering grounds, with birds from the Hudson Bay Lowlands wintering primarily in Tierra del Fuego and southern Patagonia, those from the Mackenzie Delta wintering mostly around Samborombon Bay in northern Argentina, and those from Alaska generally wintering on Chiloe Island and the adjacent mainland of Chile. On northbound migration, most birds fly non-stop from their wintering grounds to the United States Gulf Coast and follow a common route north through the U.S. Great Plains, then diverge from the eastern Canadian prairies to their breeding grounds. Hudsonian Godwit occurs regularly during breeding or migration in all three territories and in provinces from British Columbia to Québec, as well as occasionally in fall in all of the Atlantic provinces.

Canadian distribution of Hudsonian Godwit

Source : COSEWIC. 2019. COSEWIC assessment and status report on the Hudsonian Godwit Limosa haemastica in Canada. Committee on the Status of Endangered Wildlife in Canada. Ottawa. xi + 50 pp.

Habitat

Hudsonian Godwit breeds in wetland habitats (sedge meadows and muskeg) in sub-Arctic and Boreal regions. It uses a wide variety of habitats on migration, including freshwater marshes, saline lakes, flooded fields, shallow ponds, coastal wetlands and mudflats. On the wintering grounds, Hudsonian Godwit mainly forages in large shallow bays, lagoons, or estuaries with extensive intertidal mudflats, and roosts in a range of habitats, such as upper tidal flats, sand spits, rocky shorelines, salt marshes, and grasslands. The species faces habitat loss and degradation at all stages of its annual cycle, primarily through climate change and development.

Biology

Hudsonian Godwit reaches sexual maturity at three years of age, and individuals appear to remain on their wintering grounds until ready to breed. Females lay a single clutch of four eggs but may lay a second clutch if the nest is lost to predation. Generation time is estimated to be 7.7 years. The species primarily feeds on invertebrates, although plant tubers are also known to be part of the diet.

Population Sizes and Trends

Systematic long-term monitoring data are lacking for this species, and estimates of population size and trends are considered imprecise. The most recent population estimate for Hudsonian Godwit is approximately 41,000 mature individuals (24,300 individuals in the Hudson Bay Lowlands, 800 in Mackenzie Delta, and 15,750 in Alaska). Migration monitoring trend data from 1995 to 2016 (just under 3 generations) indicate a 6% annual decline (71% cumulative decline) in total population size, although the reliability of the estimate is low because of limited data coverage (only from stopover sites in eastern North America). Surveys on the wintering grounds indicate an annual decline of 4.08% in Tierra del Fuego from 2002 to 2018, equivalent to a three-generation decline of 62%, but stable numbers at Chiloe Island since the late 1980s. Considering the relative size of the wintering populations, the overall annual rate of decline over the past 16 years is approximately 2.5%, corresponding to 44% over three generations (23 years).

Threats and Limiting Factors

Hudsonian Godwit faces numerous threats throughout its annual cycle. Climate change, and severe weather, as well as natural system modifications, are likely the most serious risks.

Climate change is predicted to affect Hudsonian Godwit in numerous ways. Rising sea levels are expected to reduce coastal foraging habitat throughout its annual cycle. Warmer and drier conditions will cause tundra and prairie wetlands to shrink. Northward advancement of the treeline may reduce the availability of suitable nesting habitat, particularly in the Mackenzie Delta. Altered climate regimes along the northbound migration route and on the breeding grounds appear to be causing an ecological mismatch between timing of breeding and peak prey abundance for birds in the Hudson Bay Lowlands and the Mackenzie Delta. Droughts could affect most Hudsonian Godwits, primarily on the Great Plains during spring migration. Warming temperatures along the migration route are predicted to increase the frequency and severity of extreme weather, which could cause direct mortality of birds, as well as delays in migration.

Much of the South American wintering grounds are threatened by habitat loss and degradation. Urban sprawl affects foraging habitat in Patagonia, whereas expanding aquaculture and algal harvesting activities threaten it on Chiloe Island, where beachfront housing development is also reducing the availability of upland roosting habitat. At their wintering grounds as well as stopover sites, Hudsonian Godwits face additional disturbance from boat traffic, humans, and dogs.

Most Hudsonian Godwits are exposed to pollution in agricultural systems, either on migration, on the wintering grounds, or both, which may reduce prey quality and abundance. Petrochemical pollution from ships and industrial discharge is a concern, especially along the coast of South America. Portions of the Hudson Bay Lowlands are exposed to overgrazing of their tundra habitat by geese, although the impacts on Hudsonian Godwit remain unclear.

Protection, Status and Ranks

Hudsonian Godwit is protected in Canada under the Migratory Birds Convention Act, 1994 and in the United States under the Migratory Bird Treaty Act. The International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) ranks the species as Least Concern globally. The Canada and U.S. Shorebird Conservation Plans recognize it as a species of high concern and it is on the North American Bird Conservation Initiative's watch list. NatureServe designates both the global and Canadian breeding populations as apparently secure. The

Canadian Endangered Species Conservation Council (CESCC) considers Hudsonian Godwit to be vulnerable.

Source : COSEWIC. 2019. COSEWIC assessment and status report on the Hudsonian Godwit *Limosa haemastica* in Canada. Committee on the Status of Endangered Wildlife in Canada. Ottawa. xi + 50 pp.

For more information, please visit www.sararegistry.gc.ca.

For information regarding reproduction rights, please contact Environment and Climate Change Canada's Public Inquiries Centre at 1-800-668-6767 (in Canada only) or 819-997-2800 or email to ec.enviroinfo.ec@canada.ca

Environment and Climate Change Canada | Environnement et Changement climatique Canada

Canada

Ute Ladies'- tresses

Photo: © Walter Fertig

Scientific name
Spiranthes diluvialis

Taxon
Vascular Plants

COSEWIC status
Endangered

Canadian range
British Columbia

Reason for designation

This short, globally rare orchid occurs in Canada at only two locations in British Columbia, one of which contains a single individual. Its habitat is seasonally moist, slightly to moderately saline lakeshores that are free from overly tall/competitive species. It is primarily threatened by invasive species.

Wildlife Species Description and Significance

The orchid Ute Ladies'-tresses (*Spiranthes diluvialis*) occurs in wetlands in western North America. It is showy, white-flowered, and blooms late in the season. It is one of only two species of the genus Spiranthes known to occur in British Columbia. It is rare globally, and especially rare in Canada, where only a small fraction of the global population occurs.

Distribution

Ute Ladies'-tresses is endemic to western North America. It is known from few subpopulations in several clusters, mostly in the United States. In Canada, Ute Ladies'-tresses occurs in two subpopulations in the Okanagan Valley in extreme southern British Columbia: Mahoney Lake and Osoyoos Lake.

Distribution of Ute Ladies'-tresses in British Columbia.

Source : COSEWIC. 2018. COSEWIC assessment and status report on the Ute Ladies'-tresses *Spiranthes diluvialis* in Canada. Committee on the Status of Endangered Wildlife in Canada. Ottawa. x + 31 pp.

Habitat

Ute Ladies'-tresses occurs in diverse wetland habitats in its core US range, including riparian sedge-fringe, stream margins, gravel bars, springs, subirrigated meadows, and saline lakeshore marshes. Associated species vary among these habitats.

Commonalities among the Canadian and US populations suggest a requirement for a specific set of soil chemistry conditions. The Osoyoos Lake

subpopulation experiences an altered hydrology due to the presence of a flood-control dam to the south in the US. The Mahoney Lake subpopulation is not evidently under any artificial hydrologic regime, but lake levels fluctuate with periods of wetter and drier weather.

Biology

Ute Ladies'-tresses is a perennial herb, regenerating annually from slender tubers. Longevity of the plants is unknown. Plants reproduce sexually, producing minute seeds that are dispersed by wind. There are suggestions that the plants may reproduce vegetatively through root fragmentation or apomictically through maturation of unfertilized ovules to the seed stage. Bees are the primary, or perhaps sole, effective pollinators of Ute Ladies'-tresses. Flowering of the Canadian population occurs in late summer. The seeds of this species, like all orchids, have effectively no food stores to sustain the embryo over time, so to germinate and establish, the seeds must rapidly connect to nourishing mycorrhizal fungi. Young seedlings first develop underground, facilitated by their host fungi, for some years before producing above-ground, photosynthetic plants. Mature plants may also undergo prolonged below-ground dormancy.

Photo: © Janet Jonhson

Population Sizes and Trends

Two subpopulations of Ute Ladies'-tresses occur in Canada, with a total of 6-58 mature individuals observed, depending upon the year. The Mahoney Lake subpopulation included 57 mature individuals in 2017, but only 5 were observed in 2018. Surveys at Osoyoos Lake found one mature individual in 2006 and 2016.

Threats and Limiting Factors

Threats to Ute Ladies'-tresses in Canada include invasive plant species, altered hydrology, recreation/trampling, livestock grazing, possibility of chemical or oil spills, and herbicide drift. The habitat requirements of Ute Ladies'-tresses limit its range and reduce its ability to expand its range. Its long-term survival requires recruitment of new cohorts from viable seed. That requirement can be limited if pollinator populations decline.

Protection, Status and Ranks

Ute Ladies'-tresses is currently ranked by NatureServe as G2G3 (imperilled to vulnerable) globally and N1 (critically imperilled) in Canada. It is ranked S1 (critically imperilled, Red listed) by the British Columbia Conservation Data Centre but does not have legal status at either the provincial or federal levels. It is listed Threatened under the Endangered Species Act in the United States. It, like all orchids, is legally barred from international trade under the CITES Convention. The IUCN Red List ranks the species as Least Concern.

Source: COSEWIC. 2018. COSEWIC assessment and status report on the Ute Ladies'-tresses *Spiranthes diluvialis* in Canada. Committee on the Status of Endangered Wildlife in Canada. Ottawa. x + 31 pp.

For more information, please visit
www.sararegistry.gc.ca.

For information regarding reproduction rights, please contact Environment and Climate Change Canada's Public Inquiries Centre at 1-800-668-6767 (in Canada only) or 819-997-2800 or email to
ec.enviroinfo.ec@canada.ca

Environment and Climate Change Canada | Environnement et Changement climatique Canada

Canada

Yellow Scarab Hunter Wasp

Photo: © Jennifer Heron

Scientific name
Dielis pilipes

Taxon
Arthropods

COSEWIC status
Special Concern

Canadian range
British Columbia

Reason for designation

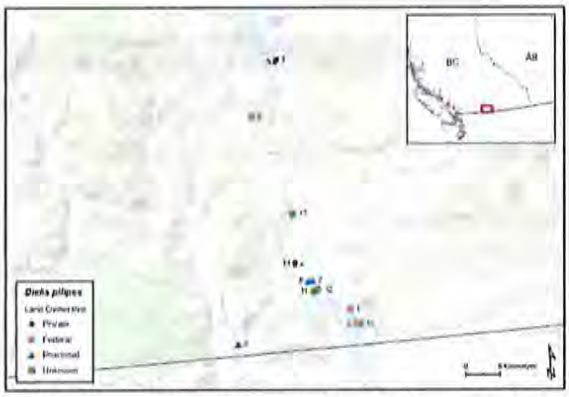
This large distinctive wasp is restricted to the low-elevation Antelope-brush and sagebrush ecological communities of the south Okanagan and Similkameen valleys of British Columbia. The larvae feed on the underground grubs of Ten-lined June Beetle that occur in sandy soils west of the Rocky Mountains. The loss, degradation, and fragmentation of open, sandy habitats, and pesticide application on adjacent agricultural lands during the adult flight period are the primary threats to the species. Further threats include increasing numbers of non-native plants into the open sand habitats, which limit detectability of host beetle larvae by adult female wasps. The species may become Threatened if factors suspected of negatively influencing the persistence of the species are not managed.

Wildlife species description and significance

Yellow Scarab Hunter Wasp (*Dielis pilipes*) is a large (20–25 mm length), uncommon black and yellow wasp; one of four scoliid wasp species reported from Canada. The wasp is a solitary ectoparasitoid of one or both of the two species of Ten-lined June beetles (Polyphylla crinita and P. decemlineata) that range in southern British Columbia. June beetle larvae are considered pests on a wide range of native shrubs, fruit trees, ornamental and garden plants, and the wasp is considered a natural biological control for the beetle larvae.

Distribution

The global range of Yellow Scarab Hunter Wasp extends from extreme south-central British Columbia into the United States through central Washington east to North Dakota and Oklahoma, and south to the Mexican border through New Mexico, Arizona and California. In Canada, Yellow Scarab Hunter Wasp has a range restricted to the Antelope-brush and sagebrush ecological communities in the valley bottoms of the southern Okanagan and lower Similkameen valleys, British Columbia. Specifically, the species is recorded from the east side of Skaha Lake south to Osoyoos; west to White Lake and one site south of Cawston and adjacent to the international border at Nighthawk Road in the Similkameen Valley.



Distribution of Yellow Scarab Hunter Wasp in British Columbia.

Source : COSEWIC. 2018. COSEWIC assessment and status report on the Black Ash *Fraxinus nigra* in Canada. Committee on the Status of Endangered Wildlife in Canada. Ottawa. x + 50 pp.

Habitat

All known Canadian records for Yellow Scarab Hunter Wasp are within the low elevation (< 600 m) Antelope-brush or sagebrush ecological communities. Soils where both the adult wasps and the host beetles are found together have open bare ground and soft, sandy friable substrates that are deep and relatively free of rocks, cobble, other larger substrates and surface weedy vegetation. Once a female wasp has found and oviposited on the host beetle larva, this burrow site will become the feeding site of the developing wasp larva, and site of diapause/overwintering of the pupa. Because of their long flight period, adult wasps likely nectar on a wide range of flowering plants.

Biology

The Yellow Scarab Hunter Wasp has four life stages (egg, larva, pupa and adult) and develops through complete metamorphosis. Most scoliid wasps have an annual life cycle and it is likely the Yellow Scarab Hunter Wasp also has one generation per year. Host beetles have one generation every two to four years, and overwinter as first and third instar larvae.

Adult Yellow Scarab Hunter Wasps have been recorded from April 20–August 2, during which mating and oviposition occur. The female detects the host beetle larva by the kairomones the beetle emits. Once she finds a patch of habitat containing the host, she will dig into the ground in search of it, and ultimately paralyze the beetle larva. The female wasp will attach her egg to the scarab larva and prepare a crude cell around both, leaving the paralyzed larva in situ. The egg hatches and the wasp larva begins feeding upon the paralyzed host for 1–2 weeks, consuming the entire beetle larva, spinning a cocoon and remaining in diapause until the following spring. Although unconfirmed, the wasp likely parasitizes the host beetle between its second and third instar.

Photo: © Jennifer Heron

Population Sizes and Trends

Yellow Scarab Hunter Wasp surveys to date have been primarily by wandering transects through suitable habitat and focused on recording new sites, natural history and habitat information. No information on the Canadian population size or trends is available.

Threats and Limiting Factors

The highest impact threat to Yellow Scarab Hunter Wasp is the application of pesticides to control grape and orchard pests throughout the

region, which can directly and indirectly impact the Yellow Scarab Hunter Wasp. Additional threats include the cumulative loss, degradation, and fragmentation of habitat (open and sandy Antelope-brush and sagebrush ecological communities). Biologically limiting factors include small population size, vulnerability to changing weather patterns, and availability of deep, sandy soil that is required to complete life stages.

Protection, Status and Ranks

Yellow Scarab Hunter Wasp, and its scarab beetle hosts, is not specifically protected under provincial or federal legislation. The wasp is known from at least three private properties; the Osoyoos/Inkameep Indian Reserve (Osoyoos First Nation); the federal property at White Lake; and three provincial protected areas. The species is not yet ranked by the British Columbia Conservation Data Centre, Natureserve or the General Status of Wildlife in Canada.

Source: COSEWIC. 2018. COSEWIC assessment and status report on the Yellow Scarab Hunter Wasp *Dielis pilipes* in Canada. Committee on the Status of Endangered Wildlife in Canada. Ottawa. x + 50 pp.

For more information, please visit www.sararegistry.gc.ca.

For information regarding reproduction rights, please contact Environment and Climate Change Canada's Public Inquiries Centre at 1-800-668-6767 (in Canada only) or 819-997-2800 or email to ec.enviroinfo.ec@canada.ca

Ginny Gemmell

From: Mayor <mayor@duncan.ca>
Sent: Friday, March 19, 2021 12:56 PM
To: Kim GRANNEMAN
Subject: Invitation to Duncan/North Cowichan RCMP Situation Table Information Meeting
Attachments: One-Page Fact Sheet on Situation Tables_Final_20190719_AG.pdf; Duncan Save the Date.pdf

Good afternoon everyone,

Mayor Michelle Staples here, reaching out to you today on behalf of North Cowichan/Duncan RCMP, Inspector Chris Bear, Mayor Al Siebring and myself, to invite you to participate in the Situation Table mobilization series taking place on zoom, April 8th 2021, 10:00am to 12:00pm.

The purpose of this initial meeting is to learn, "the first step, within a suite of customized engagement and learning solutions, is the Community Mobilization series. To begin the process of launching the Table, we are inviting system leaders, community leaders, and interested practitioners to learn more about how we can all support the staffing, learning, launch and sustainability of a successful Situation Table in Duncan-North Cowichan." From this meeting a small steering committee and next steps will be identified.

Grant Information
The City of Duncan and Municipality of North Cowichan have been approved for grant funding for $30,000 to support the creation of the Duncan-North Cowichan Situation Table. This grant will enable Duncan-North Cowichan's front-line service providers to enhance their ability to collaboratively respond to community safety challenges (e.g., crime, substance abuse, homelessness, etc.) through the adoption of a Situation Table.

Situation Tables have been shown to improve personal wellbeing and community safety by rapidly connecting vulnerable people to the services they need to manage the risks present in their lives.

The funding will provide training for a variety of participants and is comprised of three core modules that will be lead virtually by the Global Network for Community Safety (GN).

1. **Mobilization Series**: high-level training and discussion events designed for agency and community leaders and interested local stakeholders. Module 1 increases agency awareness, builds community support, and assists in creating a steering body of system leaders.
2. **Community Mentor Development**: development of local experts who will lead Table Participant Training with support and coaching from GN. Module 2 provides deep learning on Situation Table theory and practice.
3. **Table Participant Briefcase**: community mentors guide and coach table participants; access to online 'Briefcase' provided via dedicated and secure community specific GN Module accounts. Module 3 builds a cohesive team, ensures a strong Chair, and launches the Situation Table.

Media Release for your review:
https://www.cowichanvalleycitizen.com/news/cowichan-valley-gets-30000-grant-to-help-vulnerable-people/

We are hoping to include as many participants as we can in this initial session who are:
We are seeking the active participation of those who might identify as:
• Agency leaders representing one or more of our local human services sub-systems (whether

governmental or community-based organizations), at executive and middle manager levels.
This includes (but is not limited to) those in health, mental health, substance use, housing and homelessness, education, child protection and early development, social and income assistance, policing and criminal justice, community-based, and First Nations based outreach and support services.
• Community leaders, including elected officials serving at the local, provincial or federal level, Band Council members from our neighbouring First Nations, and local faith-based services;
• Local advocacy representatives with an interest in human services, policing and criminal justice, and social equity in your community;
• Practitioners in any of the above service disciplines.

If you have any questions or If you know of others who should be included in this invitation, please forward any names and contact information to North Cowichan/Duncan RCMP -Cpl. Kim GRANNEMAN at:
Cell: 250-466-4471
Email: kim.granneman@rcmp-grc.gc.ca

A ***follow up email*** will be sent out in a week from Global Network with ***registration instructions*** on how to join into the meeting. More information is attached, thanks to everyone who has made this possible!
Respectfully,
Michelle Staples
Mayor, City of Duncan
mayor@duncan.ca
250-466–9412
"Courage is what it takes to stand up and speak; courage is also what it takes to sit down and listen."
Churchill

SITUATION TABLES

A HUB MODEL FOR COMMUNITY SAFETY IN BRITISH COLUMBIA

What is a Situation Table?

Situation Tables identify and reduce the risks present in the lives of vulnerable people.The table enables agencies to:

- Proactively identify risks through real time information sharing
- Leverage and coordinate existing community assets and relationships
- Plan and deliver collaborative interventions before an incident response is required
- Reduce the level of risk with which vulnerable people are living

What Does a Situation Table Do?

Participating agencies:

- Meet regularly for 60 to 90 minutes
- Refer situations when it appears a client is facing risks that extend beyond their mandate
- Use an Information Sharing Protocol to determine if the referred client is living with acutely elevated risk

People Living with Acutely Elevated Risk:

- Risk factors are beyond the scope of any two participating agencies
- Recent events have increased the probability of harm or victimization
- Conditions have reached a point where a crisis is foreseeable

If the referral is accepted:

- Relevant agencies share sufficient information to determine risk factors
- Plan an intervention to occur within 24-48 hours

Who Participates in a Situation Table?

Champions: Local and/or Indigenous government; Community Corrections; Income Assistance

Primary Partners: Police; Health Authority; Emergency Services

Secondary Partners: Children and Family Services; Housing; School Board; Non-profit Service Providers

How do Situation Tables Work?

Who do Situation Tables Serve?

How is Information Shared?

1
- **Internal agency review and referral**
- Does this situation require a multi-agency response?

2
- **De-identified information shared**
- Group determination if situation meets AER threshold for collaborative response.

3
- **Limited identified information shared**
- Agencies consult their own records and share relevant limited information.

4
- **Intervention Planned**
- Lead and supporting agencies meet after the meeting to discuss intervention.

Benefits of Situation Tables

Partner Agencies are able to:

- Establish clear rules and procedures for information sharing
- Identify at-risk or vulnerable people
- Proactively connect people to appropriate risk mitigation services
- Share responsibility for personal wellbeing and community safety

Communities are able to:

- Reduce demand on emergency and police services; and
- Improves residents' wellbeing

Clients are able to:

- Increase their awareness and use of services
- Reduce their risk of harm or victimization

BRITISH COLUMBIA | Ministry of Public Safety and Solicitor General

The Global Network for Community Safety

Save the Date!

The municipalities of Duncan-North Cowichan,
in partnership with The Global Network for Community Safety,
would like to invite you to participate in:

Community Mobilization Learning Sessions
in support of the
Duncan-North Cowichan Situation Table

The Global Network for Community Safety (Global Network) was involved in the original creation and development of the Situation Table model, and over the past decade, they have travelled to dozens of communities each year to provide onsite mobilization, training and coaching assistance to support the introduction of Situation Tables across Canada and in the USA.

In a post-COVID world, this approach of travelling to each community is no longer viable. At the same time, the need for rapid identification of persons at risk to provide collaborative mitigation and support services, has never been more urgent. Circumstances facing many communities have continued to increase in scope and severity, especially for already marginalized individuals and families. In response to this the Global Network has developed a new innovative approach to training. The Duncan-North Cowichan Table will be one of the first few in B.C. to receive this new approach which will make immediate and lasting contributions to local community safety and well-being (CSWB).

The first step, within a suite of customized engagement and learning solutions, is the Community Mobilization series. To begin the process of launching the Table, we are inviting system leaders, community leaders, and interested practitioners to learn more about how we can all support the staffing, learning, launch and sustainability of a successful Situation Table in Duncan-North Cowichan.

Who Should Attend and Participate in the Mobilization Series?

We are seeking the active participation of those who might identify as:

- Agency leaders representing one or more of our local human services sub-systems (whether governmental or community-based organizations), at executive and middle manager levels. This includes (but is not limited to) those in health, mental health, substance use, housing and homelessness, education, child protection and early development, social and income assistance, policing and criminal justice, community-based, and First Nations based outreach and support services.
- Community leaders, including elected officials serving at the local, provincial or federal level, Band Council members from our neighbouring First Nations, and local faith-based services;
- Local advocacy representatives with an interest in human services, policing and criminal justice, and social equity in your community;
- Practitioners in any of the above service disciplines.

What is Involved in Completing the Engagement and Learning Sessions?

Participating members in the Mobilization Series will be enrolled in the following activities:

1. Attendance and active participation in a 2-hour MS Teams meeting, scheduled for **Thursday, April 8 10:00 am to 12:00 pm PST**. This session will encourage candid discussions, and it will not be recorded.

2. Access to a dedicated resource platform – you will receive access approximately a week in advance of the virtual session, and it will be available continually throughout the table launch and for a few months afterwards. Time demands are minimal (approx. 30-60 minute commitment, on your own time) but we encourage you to take advantage of these advance materials and resources in order to make the most efficient use of time on the 8th.

3. Optional ongoing access to and interaction with additional resources posted to the dedicated learning and resource site.

4. Attendance and active participation in a 1-hour follow-up MS Teams meeting (time and date to be determined.)

Interested in Being Part of the Mobilization Learning Series?

All that is required is your commitment, your name, and your email address. There is no cost to members for this full learning and engagement series. Additional joining instructions and details will be provided to all members once enrolled.

For more information, contact Cpl. Kim Granneman:

kim.granneman@rcmp-grc.gc.ca

Preview

Brief Intro to How Situation Tables Operate

The Situation Table is an important step to advancing ***community safety and well being (CSWB)*** and attention is being given to ensuring our Table is well-integrated with all ongoing initiatives in our community.

The situation table is a rapid triage model. Informal and conversational by design, table meetings are carefully guided by the Chair to identify persons or families facing situations of acutely elevated risk (AER), as recognized across multiple human service lenses, while carefully protecting personal information and privacy. This is achieved through a structured process, designed in cooperation with privacy officials in multiple jurisdictions, known as the Four Filter Model. Subject to consensus, tables will ultimately mobilize immediate and multi-agency supports, leading to a connection to all essential services required to mitigate the evident AER factors, and to ensure improved pathways to care and support.

For some general understanding of what this means in practice, we invite you to view two short videos. The first, from the Chelsea Hub in Massachusetts, highlights how their table has contributed since 2015 to CSWB outcomes in their small, densely populated city. The second is an animated explanation showing how the tables work through the four filters, developed in partnership with the Kingston, Frontenac, Lennox and Addington *Community Risk Watch* situation table members in Ontario.

[Chelsea link] https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HQUDgjs6Mso

[KFLA link] http://www.globalcommunitysafety.com/resources/community/kfla

Ginny Gemmell

From: [redacted] FIPPA s. 22(1)
Sent: Sunday, March 21, 2021 11:49 AM
To: Council
Subject: Trash netting for storm-pipes and elsewhere

Dear Mayors, Councillors and CVRD Directors:

Here's a simple yet effective idea for public works in Cowichan to purge our storm-sewer systems and waterways of plastic and other trash.
Please see the pictures attached.
This clever method is used in Australia, and I believe it could be tweaked and adapted here in Cowichan to save our rivers, streams and marshlands loaded with all manner of garbage — hopefully including millions of cigarette butts (yes, they are plastic) sadly blanketing Cowichan.
In North Cowichan's case, this net hardware perfectly meshes with our great, recently enacted environmental bylaws.
I'm sure a call to a municipality Down Under could illuminate our local works folks about how and why this capturing system works, and its costs, toward reducing our annual trash-tipping fees.
We must think outside the trash can and recycling bin.
Please consider investigating and installing a similar trash-collection method here as we continue greening Cowichan. Seems like a no-brainer in continuing to make our beloved valley an eco-showpiece.

Yours sincerely,
[redacted] FIPPA s. 22(1)
Duncan-North Cowichan, B.C.

Ginny Gemmell

From: [redacted] FIPPA s. 22(1)
Sent: Tuesday, March 23, 2021 1:03 PM
To: Council
Subject: Fwd: Horgan and old growth

Dear Mayor and Council:
Here is Leadnow's timely letter circulating in Cowichan and an across B.C. to force our provincial NDP government, under Premier John Horgan, to uphold its election promise and finally stop hideous old-growth logging.
Those local folks likely feel the same about saving all ages of trees in our precious Six Mountains — for which promised public talks are still sadly pending — from future logging.
Please restart our forest-reserve talks now.

Your truly,
[redacted] FIPPA s. 22(1)
Duncan-North Cowichan, B.C.

Begin forwarded message:

From: Cherry Tsoi - Leadnow <leadnow@leadnow.ca>
Subject: Horgan and old growth
Date: March 23, 2021 at 11:20:09 AM PDT
To: [redacted] FIPPA s. 22(1)

Dear [redacted], FIPPA s. 22(1)

156 days have passed since Premier John Horgan promised to protect ancient trees — and he still hasn't delivered. That's 156 days of old growth trees destroyed by logging, lost forever. [1]

In the face of government inaction, frontline tree defenders have taken matters into their own hands: **they've been blocking logging trucks from destroying old growth at Fairy Creek for months**. [2]

And now, **Teal Jones** — the company that wants to log Fairy Creek — could win an injunction to **forcibly remove tree defenders as soon as this week. We need all hands on deck to force Premier Horgan to keep his promise and protect our old growth.**[3]

FIPPA s. 22(1)
Here's what I'm thinking, [redacted]. **We plaster a giant billboard on Vancouver**

Island's busiest highway depicting a devastating clearcut with remnants of old growth stumps, emblazoned with the words *"Welcome to Beautiful British Columbia. Premier Horgan - deliver on your promise to protect old growth before we have none left".*

The billboard will be seen by thousands of visitors to Victoria and the BC Legislature — including Premier Horgan himself. But there's *only one billboard space available on the highway* going southbound into Victoria and **we need to secure it ASAP. Will you chip in now for a powerful billboard depicting the devastating consequences of Premier Horgan's inaction on old growth?**

CHIP IN

Imagine getting off the ferry to Vancouver Island — and one of the first sights that greets you is a jarring image of a clearcut forest, juxtaposed with our province's slogan of "Beautiful British Columbia".

Everyone who sees it will know that our forests — a source of pride for all British Columbians — are in danger. And Premier Horgan's inaction is to blame.

The **billboard is expected to be seen by 799,540 people.** This will include British Columbians, BC NDP voters, MLAs going to the BC Legislature — **even Premier Horgan himself, as he drives home from the ferry to Langford.**

On his home turf, seen by his neighbours, constituents, and peers — this billboard could call him out personally *and publicly* and raise the stakes for Horgan if he continues to ignore our demands.

But to make it happen, we need to lock ad space ASAP. **Will you chip in what you can now to help secure a massive billboard calling Horgan out for breaking his promise to protect high-risk old growth?**

CHIP IN

BC's old growth is nearly gone. A stunning map layering decades of data in BC shows very few opportunities left to conserve remaining stands of old-growth forests across the province. [4]

In Premier Horgan's own words, "many of the old growth stands on Vancouver Island are worth way more standing up than they are on the back of a truck." We couldn't agree more – but it seems the Premier needs a reminder. [5]

Your powerful billboard message could finally jolt him into action to deliver on his promise to protect BC's last remaining old growth.**Will you chip in what you can now to help save the last remaining stands of old growth in BC?**

https://act.leadnow.ca/oldgrowth-billboard/

Thanks for all that you do,
Cherry and Simran for Leadnow

Sources
[1] https://www.bcndp.ca/latest/new-approach-old-forests
[2] https://www.nationalobserver.com/2021/03/04/news/fairy-creek-blockade-save-old-growth-watershed-gets-three-week-reprieve
[3] see [2]
[4] https://thenarwhal.ca/bc-forests-old-growth-impacts-map/
[5] https://www.princegeorgecitizen.com/news/local-news/horgan-commits-to-paradigm-shift-in-old-growth-forest-management-1.24220819

Leadnow doesn't take handouts from corporations or political parties. Everything we achieve together is only possible because of ordinary people like you chipping in what they can. Please will you consider donating a few bucks a week to Leadnow? Click here to set up a secure donation: http://www.leadnow.ca/donate

---

Leadnow n'accepte aucune aide financière de la part de corporations ou de partis politiques. Tout ce que nous réalisons ensemble est le fruit du travail de gens normaux, comme vous, qui donnent ce qu'ils peuvent. Pourriez-vous donner quelques dollars par semaine à Leadnow? Cliquez ici pour faire un don sur un site sécurisé : http://www.leadnow.ca/donate

---

Leadnow.ca is an independent campaigning community that brings Canadians together to hold government accountable, deepen our democracy and take action for the common good. You can follow us on Twitter, Facebook, or Instagram. To contact us, you can reply to this email. This message was sent to peterrusland@shaw.ca, because you previously signed on to a Leadnow.ca campaign. If you no longer want to be part of our campaigning community, you can unsubscribe at any time

---

Leadnow.ca - À l'Action est une communauté indépendante qui souhaite réunir les Canadiens afin de demander des comptes au gouvernement, approfondir notre démocratie et passer à l'action pour le bien commun. Suivre sur Twitter, Facebook, Instagram. Ce courriel a été envoyé au peterrusland@shaw.ca. Vous pouvez vous désinscrire à tout moment.

Leadnow.ca, PO Box 2091, Stn Terminal, Vancouver, BC, V6B 3T2 — 1-855-LEADN0W | 1-855-532-3609

Unsubscribe

Tricia Mayea

From: Gail Mitchell [redacted] FIPPA s. 22(1)
Sent: Saturday, March 27, 2021 11:55 AM
To: Council
Subject: dave.preikshot@northcowichan.ca

Categories: In Laserfiche

North Cowichan Councilors:

We are writing with concern about the clearing of a natural area with commencement of Phase II of the Berkey's Corner development.

It is essential that a careful inventory of this area be taken before clearing proceeds, for example Garry Oak is a tree of greater significance than most due to its restricted range and its role as a food and shelter source for many insects and birds. Speaking of birds, we are just entering the nesting season. It is important not to contravene the Migratory Birds Convention Act. https://www.canada.ca/en/environment-climate-change/services/avoiding-harm-migratory-birds/general-nesting-periods/nesting-periods.html

Several species of birds that inhabit this neighbourhood are ground nesters or low-to-the-ground nesters.

If it is essential to clear this area, we request that it be postponed until after nesting season. We also request there be consultation to preserve the Garry Oaks and some of the other trees and shrubs in this south corner. There is a significant stand of Douglas Fir there also, as well as Western Red Cedar.

Thank you,

Gail Mitchell and Bruce Coates

Co-Presidents of the Cowichan Valley Naturalists' Society.

Ginny Gemmell

From: Quamichan Lake <quamichanlna@gmail.com>
Sent: Sunday, March 28, 2021 9:24 AM
To: Council
Cc: Rob Conway; [redacted]; [redacted]

FIPPA s. 22(1)

Subject: Request for a Tree Protection Bylaw for MNC
Attachments: 280321 QLNA Tree bylaw Request to MNC.pdf

Categories: In Laserfiche

Dear Mayor Siebring and Council,

Please find attached a request for the MNC to implement a Tree Protection Bylaw for your consideration.

Respectfully,

--
Per Dahlstrom, Nancy Dower, Steve Jones, Cynthia Montgomery and Carreen Unguran
Directors - Quamichan Lake Neighbourhood Association
Click on the icon below to find us on Instagram!

If you no longer wish to receive emails from the QLNA please reply to this email and add UNSUBSCRIBE in the subject line

Quamichan Lake Neighbourhood Association

quamichanlna@gmail.com

https://www.instagram.com/qlna.cowichan/

March 28, 2021

Mayor and Council
Municipality of North Cowichan
7030 Trans-Canada Highway
Duncan, BC V9L 6A1 | Canada
Via email: council@northcowichan.ca

Dear Mayor Siebring and Council:

RE: Request for a Tree Protection Bylaw for the Municipality of North Cowichan

Unlike many municipalities on Vancouver Island, the Municipality of North Cowichan ("MNC") does not have a Tree Protection Bylaw that would protect our ancient and significant trees. An extensive tree canopy forms our neighbourhoods' natural beauty, reduces our carbon footprint, provides wildlife habitat, increases breathability, protects salmon-bearing streams, retains water run-off, and protects hillsides from erosion and landslide. As well, trees on private land increase value and livability on a property and in a neighbourhood.

In April of 2018, Cynthia Montgomery presented a petition to MNC Council, signed by 500 residents, asking for a tree protection bylaw. The petition stated:

"Whereas our ancient trees are a vibrant part of our environment and habitat, aid rain water retention and cool and clean the air; and whereas they remain unprotected and dwindling in number: we, the undersigned residents of the Municipality of North Cowichan call upon the Mayor and Council to enact a municipal bylaw, such as is found in many municipalities, protecting all ancient and significant trees, unless they have been deemed by a certified arborist to be in imminent danger of causing harm through damage or disease."

At the time Ms. Montgomery was told to present the idea for a Tree Protection Bylaw as part of the Official Community Plan renewal process. The Quamichan Lake Neighbourhood Association has decided to spearhead the community effort to adopt a Tree Protection Bylaw. We envision this bylaw functioning on several levels and would apply to developers and property owners. It would use a combination of

incentives and deterrents to achieve success. The following are offered as examples with references to the North Cowichan's 2011 OCP, where appropriate.

- Developers could be required to post a levy for every tree they remove. These funds could be used by the municipality to plant sufficient semi-mature trees to replace the lost carbon footprint of the removed trees. Or, the monies collected could be repaid to the developer, upon sufficient planting by the developer of appropriate trees. This replanting would occur before an occupancy permit would be issued.[1 2 3 4 5]
- Property owners could receive tax credits on their property taxes for the total tree canopy on their land, as ample tree cover provides a public good, such as cooling in summer, increasing property values, aiding water retention, increasing soil stability on steep slopes or areas prone to flooding.[6]
- Property owners could be required to obtain a permit or could be fined for removing trees over a designated size, unless the tree has been deemed by an arborist to be in imminent danger of causing harm through damage or disease. These fines could be mitigated by replacing the tree with appropriately-sized trees on their own property or in an area designated by the Municipality.
- MNC could employ or contract consulting arborists to recommend action for any trees on land, private or municipal, that are in poor condition or pose a risk to persons or properties. In high risk situations, MNC could require and assist the owner with removal.

We believe there is widespread public support for such a Tree Protection Bylaw and the following organizations expressed their support when contacted by the QLNA:

- Chemainus Residents Association
- Crofton Residents Association
- Sahtlam Neighbourhood Association
- Somenos Marsh Wildlife Society

[1] "Any change from the existing condition of significant landforms and features (eg, through clearing of forest cover for a suburban development) should be difficult to perceive from key viewpoints." 2.1.4.1.c) MNC 2011 OCP

[2] "In visually sensitive areas, the Municipality may require visual impact assessments and tree/vegetation retention and management plans as part of development application package." 2.1.4.1.e), Ibid.

[3] "Relate proposed development to NC's natural environment. … Protect and restore biodiversity, use site-appropriate landscaping, protect natural landforms and views." Appendix 5, Land Use and Development Application Objectives…#3. Site Design and Landscaping. p. 147, 153 Ibid.

[4] "Protect mature trees and other vegetation and retain original vegetation as much as possible and where this is not possible, restore original vegetation and drainage." Appendix 5, p. 153, Ibid.

[5] "Some lands present hazards to development by having steep slopes (20% or greater)…To protect development on areas with natural hazards, to protect development on areas with natural hazards, a development permit is required…" Appendix 5, p. 142, Ibid.

[6] "In steep or flood prone areas,…the removal of vegetation may destabilize the areas, cause environmental damage, or pose a risk for loss of like or property." Appendix 5, p. 142, Ibid.

In addition to the community support for the introduction of a Tree Protection Bylaw it is supported by both the 2011 OCP, as illustrated above, and by the consultants hired by the MNC to complete an Environmental Policy and Regulation Review. Diamond Head Consulting presented an excellent report at the February 22, 2021 Special Council Meeting that the QLNA fully endorses. Recommendation 10 of that report suggests "Consider introducing tree protection measures through a tree bylaw and/or the subdivision approval process to prevent unnecessary tree clearing". The report goes on to state that the "protection of trees is usually enforced through a tree bylaw as well as tree protection and replacement requirements,"[7] and that there is currently a "lack of regulation to prevent tree removal during development."[8] Tree protection is referenced in many ways throughout the report, which emphasizes its significant role in environmental protection policy.

Importantly, a tree bylaw is not intended to impede development but rather, provide an avenue to allow development to occur in a way that protects our valuable natural resources. Clearly, such bylaws haven't stopped development in other municipalities as can be seen with neighbouring municipalities such as Duncan that do have tree bylaws in place. The adoption of such a bylaw in the Municipality of North Cowichan would enhance residents' enjoyment of this beautiful valley.

Sincerely,

Per Dahlstrom, Nancy Dower, Steve Jones, Cynthia Montgomery, and Carreen Unguran
Quamichan Lake Neighbourhood Association

cc: Rob Conway, Director, Planning and Building, MNC, rob.conway@northcowichan.ca
Bernie Jones, Chemainus Residents Association, [redacted]
Dan Robin, Crofton Residents Association, [redacted]
Isabel Rimmer, Sahtlam Neighbourhood Association, [redacted]
Paul Fletcher, Somenos Marsh Wildlife Society, [redacted] FIPPA s. 22(1)

End of Document

[7] Diamond Head Consulting Report, section 2.1.
[8] Section 2.2.

Ginny Gemmell

From: [redacted] FIPPA s. 22(1)
Sent: Thursday, March 11, 2021 2:50 PM
To: Council
Subject: LAP

March 11, 2021

To Mayor and Council;

I would like to take this opportunity to speak to the Bell McKinnon Local Area Plan (LAP) that was discussed at last Tuesday's Committee of the Whole meeting (March 9, 2021). As a resident of the Bell McKinnon Corridor and in direct proximity to the proposed new hospital, this plan is of vital importance to our lives. Not honouring the LAP, thereby not honouring the message from the community most directly affected by this hospital, would be a violation of the trust placed in the community engagement process and, indeed, in democracy. Should this council decide to strike down the community supported LAP, it would be reasonable to question whether community engagement is just a hoop being jumped through, a sham, and that at the end of the day, council will follow their own agenda, regardless of their constituents desires for their own community.

Thank you for your time,

[redacted], FIPPA s. 22(1)

Bell McKinnon Road

Ginny Gemmell

From: [redacted] FIPPA s. 22(1)
Sent: Tuesday, March 16, 2021 10:45 AM
To: A:Mayor&Council; Ted Swabey; Council; Al Siebring
Cc: Chemainus & District Chamber of Commerce; Krystal Adams - CBIA Executive Director; Craig Spence; Bernie Jones; Warren Goulding- Publisher
Subject: Concerns of shift from Existing Communities to a new Bell McKinnon Village

Good Afternoon Mayor and Council

I am writing to you today with conflicted feelings about the emphasis given to the development of the Bell McKinnon area as a new "Village". The conflict comes as I am very pleased to see that the Cowichan valley, specifically North Cowichan is a beautiful place that is in demand for both business and residential interest alike. But, the flip side is worry about the future investments and efforts to strengthen Chemainus as the vibrant village it is which includes a renewed development plan from MNC.

Yes, significant investment is currently underway in Chemainus building off the Chemainus revitalization plan. The benefits of new revitalization I have seen in the last 7 years is profound to me and we are just seeing the beautiful new Chemainus Road revitalization upgrades come to a close. Wul'aam Park, Kin Beach, Waterwheel Park, Willow Street streetscapes, CVRD partnership on Cowichan trail are a few to name. Then swinging to infill residential development with the likes of Jon Lefebrure's 8plex, the condo across from the thrift store, the new library, Chris Clements development around the Hermits Trail park to name a few. These are exciting things to see happen to our town and a momentum that our residents and business owners alike want to see continue.

That is where the concern lies, with development continuing to become "Duncan-centric" the nagging idea of a Chemainus left behind builds. From an economic development perspective Chemainus continues to be glossed over as just a line item in the context of the Cowichan Valley Ec Dev approach mandate. This is so much a concern that I have had meetings with the Mayor, the Chamber, the BIA, Barry O'Riordan Ec Dev Cowichan and other fellow business leaders in this community. If a focused effort to build up a new village in North Cowichan happens, where does Chemainus fit into this? Will we see a gradual shift of capital project dollars, residential & commercial development dollars, attention of short to long term strategies, community amenities, and community (RCMP) policing all continue to go to the new "golden child" center of Cowichan?

I am aware that the Bell Mckinnon document is just a vision (I believe) at this point but with the upcoming OCP finalization council is at a crossroads of a significant decision on where it plans to go. What becomes of existing centers like Chemainus and Crofton? What becomes of the small businesses trying their very best to remain viable and keep their doors open. If we continue to pull shopping, services and amenities away from what we already have, what hope do these communities have for their future in already difficult times. Do we just become a bedroom community and will businesses remain? As we sit without a strong support and plan from council at this stage of residential sales and ownership in Chemainus we have no inventory. Our village has also become an unaffordable luxury priced community which continues to drive young adults and family out of or away from town. This is doubled down on as an issue as then because there are no affordable homes or even rentals, existing businesses struggle to retain and find employees as they can not live here. The lack of mixed use infill higher density single family and bachelor style residences contributes to this and would/will not occur in my opinion if efforts to shift to the BMLAP take place.

There is much more to speak on this matter about developing further into green spaces in North Cowichan. Developing on tracts of agricultural land as Ec Dev Cowichan pushes hard to build on local food security and regional food innovations. I am certain there will be those much more intimate know;edge on this subject and merely want to just touch on it in this correspondence as an addition to my Chemainus thoughts.

This is just my top level initial reaction and I am sure there is a lot I don't know or understand at this point. This could be a benefit to Chemainus, but at this point I do not see it thus my email raising a flag for the community of Chemainus and our future plans as a community.

As a quick side note, I speak as a resident and business owner in Chemainus and not on behalf of any of the organizations I am part of.

Thank-you kindly for your time reading my correspondence.

Best Regards
[redacted] FIPPA s. 22(1)
Website | Facebook | Twitter | Instagram

Ginny Gemmell

From: [redacted] FIPPA s. 22(1)
Sent: Thursday, March 18, 2021 1:24 PM
To: Council
Subject: Local Area Plan changes possible re: New Cowichan District Hospital on Bell-McKinnon Road

Dear North Cowichan Mayor and Council:

I appreciate the concerns of some Bell-McKinnon Road residents regarding potential changes to the Local Area Plan (LAP), containing community input concerning our new $887-million hospital.
However, as a taxpayer funding this project, I respectfully remind folks LAP's are not written in stone.
Such plans are living documents. They are blueprints for complex projects loaded with with zoning, infrastructure, mistakes, planning procedure changes, development permits, traffic issues, and especially environmental concerns.
Council is correct to question how our new hospital — with exact bed numbers sadly still in limbo — and nearby residential areas could spawn sprawl, water fouling, traffic snarls, tree loss, air and noise pollution and much more.
Councillors are elected and paid to have open minds that are subject to change when and if new information surfaces about all sizes and prices of public projects and plans.
Councillors Christoper Justice, Kate Marsh and others on council rightly appear to be exercising that elastic thinking regarding our new CDH as it moves toward reality.
"Tweaking" is what Coun. Marsh correctly called it as reported in the March 18 Citizen.
For residents such as the Jacksons to call our LAP "bait-and-switch", or a "trick", by council is misdirected unless they and other residents were given legal guarantees that the LAP would not change in any way.
Those guarantees would have to be written, not simply verbal, assurances during public input meetings and staff consultations.
If that's the case, please produce those written guarantees.
To be clear, our new — let's call it a $1-billion — hospital is a massive undertaking that will change the face of Cowichan and its outlaying areas forever.
As such, changes, even small ones, are an inevitable reality as our new hospital — and its surrounding developments — progress.
Our LAP is different in lots of ways compared to our new official community plan (OCP) still under discussion. And even our OCP can be interpreted (witness the turgid Donnay Drive project) rightly or wrongly by council.
Such is also the case with CDH's LAP.
Folks standing to potentially profit from property-value increases as our new hospital progresses can't realistically count their chickens before they hatch.
The endgame here must be a new hospital, with some overdue infrastructure upgrades and affordable housing.
Viewing our new medical facility merely as an economic sparkplug, job- and tax-generator is fatuous, film-flam at least.
For nearly $1 billion of our money, I fairly expect our new hospital to be completed to the smartest, thriftiest abilities of our council, provincial ministries and residents for the sake of everyone.
That includes patients, for whom this project is really be built in the first place.

Yours most truly,
[redacted], FIPPA s. 22(1)
Duncan-North Cowichan, B.C.

From: [redacted] FIPPA s. 22(1)
Sent: Tuesday, March 30, 2021 11:57 AM
To: [redacted] FIPPA s. 22(1)
Subject: Re: [redacted] -Bell McKinnon Local Area Plan
FIPPA s. 22(1)
Re: [redacted] -Bell McKinnon Local Area Plan
FIPPA s. 22(1) FIPPA s. 22(1)
We totally agree with [redacted] that we have been tricked by North Cowichan Council. Since 2016 the residences of Bell McKinnon and Herd Road have been actively involved in our Local Area Plan. My Husband and I have lived on Herd Road for 27 years. We have raised our children here and we were in the process of getting our house ready for our retirement years, when we heard that the new hospital was going to be built in our neighborhood. Our road has become very busy over the years, and even busier, when the Crofton road floods, sending all the truck traffic past our house, so we were very upset to hear, how much busier it will get with the new hospital.

We were told about the Bell McKinnon LAP and that if we got involved we would have our say in the direction our neighborhood would go. So we did. I even got up at a council meeting, to express I how felt, way beyond my comfort zone. There is no doubt that we need a new hospital but if everyone says not in my backyard then where would it go? Over a 2 year period of hard work, time and money, the neighborhood came together, along with the planning and building committee, a plan for the next 50 years was put together. It's a plan that you can live, work and play, with plenty of green space. It has won 2 awards. And it was adopted by Council.

So we came to terms, about having the hospital in our backyard. Knowing we were going to be living in a beautiful neighborhood. I know I am very naive when it comes to politics, but here I am thinking it is a done deal. Now here we are 2021, and Council is saying, that they can change or even scrap the BMLAP, and start all over, without any input from the public. Some of the council members think that you can put a hospital in the middle of a neighborhood and not expect to have any growth around it. That we should stop and go back. Why? That shows no respect for all the work and time that went into this plan. The hospital is a done deal. The property across the road is zoned commercial, gone are the trees and wildlife that used to be my view, replaced by the traffic and noise of the highway. So how can we stop something that is already started.

Our lives have been put on hold since 2016, waiting to see what is going to happen to our neighborhood, please North Cowichan Council, do your job and continue with the plan that you have already adopted. Don't go wasting time and money on redoing a Plan that is already in place.

Thanks,

[redacted] FIPPA s. 22(1)

Ginny Gemmell

From: [redacted] FIPPA s. 22(1)
Sent: Thursday, March 11, 2021 10:06 PM
To: Council
Subject: VIMC again

Dear Councilors,
My understanding is that VIMC continues to disregard Dr. Bonnie Henry's requests to limit travel and to suspend group gatherings. While other race tracks in BC have remained closed due to COVID, VIMC continues to disregard the provincial guidelines. April 2nd there is a gathering involving 30 or more cars, 49 cars are expected at the end of this month as well as other group activities. I ask that Council support our provincial mandate to prevent COVID spread, particularly as Central Island continues to have the highest COVID cases on Vancouver Island with a high of 41 cases on the Island just today and 16 of these cases from central island.

Sincerely,
[redacted] FIPPA s. 22(1)
--
[redacted] FIPPA s. 22(1)
Palliative Care Physician
GP Oncology
Associate Clinical Professor of Medicine, UBC

Cowichan District Hospital
3045 Gibbins Rd.
Duncan, BC
V9L1E5

Ginny Gemmell

From: [redacted] FIPPA s. 22(1)
Sent: Wednesday, March 17, 2021 9:03 AM
To: Council
Subject: track

Hello council,
I know your job is not easy, not matter the decision you make some people will be angry.
I am in shock that this RaceTrack does not hear the community..it brings me back hundreds of years, NO MEANS NO..what part of that don't you get.
NO race tracks: WHY>..who will speak for the animals?? The rivers?? The Trees??? Mother Earth…the air…??
WE are in a pandemic and the RaceTrack people don't abide by the guidelines or rules, that makes them special?? They can gather and race around, make noise and pollute the air?? Travel?? Come on Ferry?? Just to race around the track???
WHY THE ISLAND?? Go somewhere where they like that kinda of thing…maybe USA…go far away we don't need this.
I have been hearing that they are bullies, and we accommodate them???

WHY you ask, do I have the passion to save our Island?? I will tell you why…
Back in 1974 I was put in our longhouse. I have bad allergies, and everything in the longhouse I am allergic to. Wool, dust, cedar, smoke. My first night in there I was given a medicine that took away my allergies for 20 years. I had no reaction, I was living my life allergy free. They put two herbs in the drink, one is now missing from the forest. WHY?? They logged it, it is now a trail, with no swimming hole for us. WE cant find that herb anywhere…it was destroyed…we are losing a lot of our medicines in the forest, we are losing our FISH, we mentioned that 30 years ago, now look where we are at…NO ONE listens to us first nations people. We are all about the LAND, ANIMALS, HERBS…MOTHER EARTH….protection from….people who like to rape mother earth…over and over again….
Let put some serious thought to this,…please…

Ginny Gemmell

From: [redacted] FIPPA s. 22(1)
Sent: Wednesday, March 31, 2021 1:12 PM
To: Council; Bylaw
Subject: VIMC - Speed Fanatics Easter Special

To North Cowichan Councillors and By-Law Officers,

I am writing with regard to VIMC Track hosting events at the track which aside from the noise that disturbs increasingly more and more residents of the Cowichan Valley also seems to disregard Travel Regulations that have been advised by the Province's Health Officer, Dr Bonnie Henry, and as I understand is not abiding by the rule of 'no gatherings of more than 10 people' outside.

Perhaps some level of investigation could confirm whether they are adhering to the guidelines and particularly any orders that apply on size of gatherings whilst we are trying our best to navigate a potential surge in numbers here on Vancouver Island.

Speed Fanatics is based in Mission, BC.

Thank you

[redacted] FIPPA s. 22(1)
Corey Road

Sent from Mail for Windows 10

Ginny Gemmell

From: [redacted] FIPPA s. 22(1)
Sent: Saturday, March 13, 2021 2:03 AM
To: Council; Al Siebring; Rob Douglas; Christopher Justice; Tek Manhas; Kate Marsh; Rosalie Sawrie; Debra Toporowski
Subject: Hospital Security - Special Constable Status

Dear Mayor and City Council,

I recently read in the Times Colonist about the local Police departments recommending hospital security get special constable status. I couldn't agree more with this statement.

I work in the City of North Cowichan and am advocating for this change. These hard working security guards already perform many of the duties of a peace officer without the recognition, additional training and oversight.

Because of all the growth in the city over the last few years, the need for peace officers in the hospital has increased tenfold. I'm upset that the city council has not previously seen the need for our hospital security to get peace officer status. Please write to the provincial government and Island Health requesting special constable status for hospital security staff, provided they are given sufficient training.

Yours sincerely,

[redacted] FIPPA s. 22(1)

Ginny Gemmell

From: [redacted] FIPPA s. 22(1)
Sent: Saturday, March 20, 2021 2:01 PM
To: Council; Al Siebring; Rob Douglas; Christopher Justice; Tek Manhas; Kate Marsh; Rosalie Sawrie; Debra Toporowski
Subject: Hospital Security Peace Officer Status

Dear Mayor and City Council,

I recently read in the Times Colonist about local Police departments recommending hospital security get special constable status. I couldn't agree more with this statement. I have close family in the city of Duncan, and am advocating for this change. These hard-working security guards already perform many of the duties of a peace officer without the recognition, additional training and oversight. Because of all the growth in the city over the last few years, the need for peace officers in the hospital has increased tenfold. I'm very shocked that the city council has not previously seen the need for our hospital security to get peace officer status. Please write to the provincial government and Island Health requesting special constable status for hospital security staff, provided they are given sufficient training.

Yours sincerely,

[redacted], FIPPA s. 22(1)

THE CORPORATION OF THE

TOWNSHIP OF SPALLUMCHEEN

TEL. (250) 546-3013
FAX. (250) 546-8878

OUR FILE NO.

4144 Spallumcheen Way
Spallumcheen, B.C. V0E 1B6

Email: mayor@spallumcheentwp.bc.ca

www.spallumcheentwp.bc.ca

OFFICE OF THE MAYOR

March 5, 2021

File: 0320-20-01

The Honourable Patty Hajdu

sent via email

House of Commons
Ottawa, Ontario,
Canada
K1A 0A6

Patty.Hajdu@parl.gc.ca

Re: Support for 988 Crisis Line

Please be advised that at the Monday, March 1, 2021 Regular Council Meeting, the Township of Spallumcheen Council passed the following resolution:

"THAT the Township of Spallumcheen Council pass the following motion and direct a letter indicating such support to the local MP, MPP, Federal Minister of Health, the CRTC and local area municipalities as outlined in the letter from Member of Parliament Mel Arnold, North Okanagan - Shuswap for support for a National Suicide Prevention Hotline:

WHEREAS the Federal government has passed a motion to adopt 988, a National three-digit suicide and crisis hotline;

AND WHEREAS the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic has increased the demand for suicide prevention services by 200 percent;

AND WHEREAS existing suicide prevention hotlines require the user to remember a 10-digit number and go through directories or be placed on hold;

AND WHEREAS in 2022 the United States will have in place a national 988 crisis hotline;

AND WHEREAS the Township of Spallumcheen Council recognizes that it is a significant and important initiative to ensure critical barriers are removed to those in a crisis and seeking help;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Township of Spallumcheen Council endorses this 988 crisis line initiative."

Council understands, now more then ever, that Canadians may need access to additional resources amidst the COVID-19 pandemic. It is imperative, we as elected officials, do everything that we can to help everyone come out stronger on the other side of this unprecedented and challenging time.

Thank you for your attention to this matter, if you have any questions in this regard please contact the undersigned.

Respectfully,

Christine Fraser
Mayor

cc. Member Municipalities
MP Todd Doherty
MP Mel Arnold
Canadian Radio-Television and Telecommunications Commission (CRTC)

VILLAGE OF BELCARRA

"Between Forest and Sea"

4084 BEDWELL BAY ROAD, BELCARRA, B.C. V3H 4P8
TELEPHONE 604-937-4100 FAX 604-939-5034
belcarra@belcarra.ca • www.belcarra.ca

March 10, 2021

Honourable Nelly Shin
Member of Parliament
Port Moody – Coquitlam
1116 Austin Avenue
Coquitlam, BC V3K 3P5

Via email: nelly.shin@parl.gc.ca

Dear Honourable Nelly Shin,

Re: Belcarra Council Motion – Endorsement of 9-8-8 Crisis Line Initiative

Please be advised that at a Regular meeting of Belcarra Council held on March 8, 2021, the following motion was passed:

> "That the Village of Belcarra endorse the 9-8-8 crisis line initiative; and
> That staff be directed to send a letter indicating support to the local MP, MPP, Federal Minister of Health, the CRTC and UBCM municipalities to indicate the support of Belcarra."

Thank you for bringing this matter to the attention of Belcarra Council. 2021 has been an unprecedented challenge. There have been considerable impacts from the COVID-19 Pandemic on the mental health of Canadians. Through unanimous consent, Belcarra supports the creation of a National 3-Digit Suicide Prevention Hotline in Canada.

Sincerely,

Jamie Ross
Mayor

cc Hon. Adrian Dix, Minister of Health
Rick Glumac, MLA
CRTC
UBCM Member Municipalities

J:\Files Admin\Administration\Mayor Jamie Ross\2021 Correspondence\2021 03 10 Honourable Nelly Shin, MP, Port Moody - Coquitlam, Anmore & Belcarra - Establishing a National Suicide Prevention Hotline.docx

Municipality of North Cowichan
Special Council
MINUTES

March 9, 2021, 6:00 p.m.
Electronically

Members Present	Mayor Al Siebring Councillor Rob Douglas Councillor Christopher Justice Councillor Tek Manhas Councillor Kate Marsh Councillor Rosalie Sawrie Councillor Debra Toporowski
Staff Present	Ted Swabey, Chief Administrative Officer (CAO) Sarah Nixon, Deputy Chief Administrative Officer (D/CAO) Clay Reitsma, Senior Manager, Engineering Don Stewart, Director, Parks and Recreation Rob Conway, Director, Planning and Building Shawn Cator, Director, Operations Michele Gill, Manager, Development, Engineering Jason Birch, Chief Information Officer Tammy Isaachsen, Acting Manager, Communications and Public Engagement Michelle Martineau, Corporate Officer Tricia Mayea, Deputy Corporate Officer

1. CALL TO ORDER

There being a quorum present, Mayor Siebring called the meeting to order at 9:30 p.m.

2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

IT WAS MOVED AND SECONDED:
That Council approve the agenda as circulated. CARRIED

3. PUBLIC INPUT

Council received no public input regarding agenda items.

4. BUSINESS

4.1 Special Event Permit - Movie Shoot in Chemainus

IT WAS MOVED AND SECONDED:
That Council authorize the issuance of a special event permit to Minute-Road Production Limited for the filming of a Hallmark Film called The Baker's Sons in downtown Chemainus beginning March 10, 2021 and ending on March 19, 2021;

And that the permit be subject to the following conditions:

- That the applicant submit a Traffic Management Plan prepared by a qualified professional to the Director of Engineering prior to March 12, 2021;
- That the applicant obtain a business licence;
- That the applicant obtain liability insurance of not less than $2,000,000 and that the District of North Cowichan be named an additional insured;
- That the applicant adhere to the Provincial Health Officer's regulations related to COVID-19 which includes the requirement for an on-site COVID-19 safety officer and protocol compliance monitors during operations, including set-up and take-down; and
- That operations are restricted between the hours of 7:00 am and 9:00 pm.

And further that the public be prohibited from using the parking spaces located on Willow Street adjacent to the film site, Willow Street Bakery, from March 15, 2021 to March 19, 2021. CARRIED

5. NEW BUSINESS

None.

6. QUESTION PERIOD

Council received no questions from the public regarding agenda items.

7. CLOSED SESSION

None.

8. ADJOURNMENT

IT WAS MOVED AND SECONDED:
That Council adjourn the Special Council meeting at 9:48 p.m. CARRIED

Certified by Corporate Officer

Signed by Mayor

Municipality of North Cowichan
Council - Regular and Public Hearings
MINUTES

March 17, 2021, 1:30 p.m.
Electronically

Members Present	Mayor Al Siebring Councillor Rob Douglas Councillor Christopher Justice Councillor Tek Manhas Councillor Kate Marsh Councillor Rosalie Sawrie Councillor Debra Toporowski
Staff Present	Ted Swabey, Chief Administrative Officer (CAO) Sarah Nixon, Deputy Chief Administrative Officer (D/CAO) David Conway, Director, Engineering Projects Don Stewart, Director, Parks and Recreation Rob Conway, Director, Planning and Building Shawn Cator, Director, Operations George Farkas, Director, Human Resources and Corporate Planning Walter Wiebe, Senior Manager, Financial Services Tammy Isaachsen, Acting Manager, Communications and Public Engagement James Goodman, Manager, Budgets and Infrastructure Jason Blood, Manager, Recreation Jason Birch, Chief Information Officer Lane Killick, Chief Building Inspector Glenn Morris, Development Planning Coordinator Caroline von Schilling, Development Planner Anthony Price, Planning Technician Tricia Mayea, Deputy Corporate Officer

1. CALL TO ORDER

There being a quorum present, Mayor Siebring called the meeting to order at 1:30 p.m.

2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

2.1 Approval of Consent Agenda

The following items were pulled from the Consent Agenda and added to New Business:

- Item 2.4 [February 25, 2021 email from The Matraea Centre regarding Cowichan's housing shortage and step-escalation in housing prices]
- Item 2.9 [March 1, 2021 email from resident regarding Tyee article on the Site C Dam]
- Item 2.11 [March 4, 2021 email from resident regarding proposed cell tower on Mount Tzouhalem]

IT WAS MOVED AND SECONDED:
That the remaining items in the Consent Agenda be approved. CARRIED

1. That the following minutes be received for information purposes only:
   1.2 March 2, 2021 Environmental Advisory Committee
2. That the following correspondence is received for information purposes only:
   2.1 Kaspa Road Parking Lot Restrictions
   2.2 February 18, 2021 letter from City of Williams Lake to the Premier, Minister of Health and Provincial Health Officer suggesting a special task force be established to assist with vaccine distribution
   2.3 February 25, 2021 email from BC Economic Development Association regarding Economic Restart & Resiliency Bulletin
   2.5 February 26, 2021 thank you letter from BC Forest Discovery Centre regarding Christmas Express Video
   2.6 February 27, 2021 email from resident asking Council to sign their e-petition regarding puppy mills
   2.7 February 28, 2021 email from resident asking Council to enact a tree-protection bylaw and consider their tree poem as input related to the Municipal Forest Reserve
   2.8 March 1, 2021 letter from the City of Surrey regarding Surrey's Police Transition
   2.10 March 3, 2021 letter from Cowichan Rugby Club regarding Council's service to the community and Council's support, and inviting Mayor and Council to attend a future event at Piggie Park
   2.12 March 5, 2021 letters from the City of New Westminster to the Ministers of Tourism and Labour requesting support for laid-off hotel and tourism industry workers
   2.13 March 9, 2021 email from resident regarding illegal logging in Municipal Forest Reserve ADOPTED ON CONSENT

2.2 Approval of Regular Agenda

The order of the agenda was changed so that item 11.2 [Online Petition: RCMP presence in Chemainus/Crofton must be returned to the levels promised in 1998] is considered after item 6. [PUBLIC INPUT], items 2.4, 2.9 and 2.11 from the Consent Agenda were added under New Business, and the following item was added as a late item to the agenda:

(1) Item 16.3 Closed under Sections 90.1(c), (f), (g) and 90.2(b) of the *Community Charter*.

IT WAS MOVED AND SECONDED:
That Council adopt the agenda, as amended. CARRIED

3. ADOPTION OF MINUTES

3.1 Regular Council meeting held March 3, 2021 for adoption

IT WAS MOVED AND SECONDED:
That Council adopt the minutes of the Regular Council meeting held March 3, 2021.
CARRIED

3.2 Special Council meeting held March 9, 2021 for adoption

IT WAS MOVED AND SECONDED:
That Council adopt the minutes of the Special Council meeting held March 9, 2021.
CARRIED

4. MAYOR'S REPORT

The Mayor gave a verbal report on meetings and activities he recently attended.

IT WAS MOVED AND SECONDED:
That Council suspend the rules to pull Item 1.1 [February 24, 2021 Official Community Plan Advisory Group] from the Consent Agenda and add it to New Business. CARRIED

5. DELEGATIONS AND PRESENTATIONS

5.1 Human Sex Trafficking, Sexual Exploitation, Child Sex Trafficking in BC

Cathy Peter provided a presentation to raise awareness about the rapidly growing crime of human sex trafficking, sexual exploitation, and child sex trafficking in B.C.

IT WAS MOVED AND SECONDED:
That Council authorize the Mayor to write a letter for Cathy Peters in support of her advocacy for victims of human sex trafficking, sexual exploitation, and child sex trafficking in BC. CARRIED

IT WAS MOVED AND SECONDED:
That Council direct staff to schedule a meeting to discuss human sex trafficking, sexual exploitation, and child sex trafficking in BC. CARRIED

6. PUBLIC INPUT

Council received public input from one member of the public regarding agenda item 11.2 [Online Petition: RCMP presence in Chemainus/Crofton must be returned to the levels promised in 1998], and four members of the public regarding agenda item 8.1.1. [Agricultural Land Commission Exclusion Application (ALR00034) & Joint OCP-Zoning Amendment Application (OCP00015) for 3137 Henry Road]

11.2 Online Petition: RCMP presence in Chemainus/Crofton must be returned to the levels promised in 1998

The online petition regarding the RCMP service levels in Chemainus and Crofton was discussed and Inspector Bear was present to answer questions of Council.

Councillor Marsh left the meeting at 2:32 p.m. and returned at 2:54 p.m.

IT WAS MOVED AND SECONDED:
That Council direct Inspector Bear from Duncan/North Cowichan RCMP to report back to Council with options for police presence in Chemainus including pros and cons. CARRIED

7. BYLAWS

7.1 Municipal Ticket Information System Amendment Bylaw No. 3812, 2020 for adoption

IT WAS MOVED AND SECONDED:
That Council adopt Municipal Ticket Information System Amendment Bylaw No. 3812, 2020. CARRIED

7.2 Zoning Amendment Application No. ZB000147 (2772 Herd Road)

IT WAS MOVED AND SECONDED:
That Council give first and second reading to Zoning Amendment Bylaw No. 3819, 2021 to permit a second detached residential dwelling at 2772 Herd Road and a public hearing be scheduled for Bylaw No. 3819 in accordance with the *Local Government Act*. CARRIED

8. REPORTS

8.1 REPORTS FOR DECISION

8.1.1 Agricultural Land Commission Exclusion Application (ALR00034) & Joint OCP-Zoning Amendment Application (OCP00015) for 3137 Henry Road

Mayor Siebring had technical difficulties and left the meeting at 4:28 p.m., and Acting Mayor, Tek Manhas assumed the Chair. Mayor Siebring returned to the meeting at 4:32 p.m. and resumed the Chair.

IT WAS MOVED AND SECONDED:
That the meeting be extended to 6:00 p.m. CARRIED

IT WAS MOVED AND SECONDED:
1. That Council deny application ALR00034 for exclusion of a 2.1 hectare portion at 3137 Henry Road from the Agricultural Land Reserve.
2. That Council deny OCP/zoning bylaw amendment application OCP0015 to re-designate and rezone a 2.1 hectare portion of 3137 Henry Road from Rural to Chemainus Industrial and from Rural Restricted (A3) to Light Industrial (I1).

(Opposed: Manhas, Sawrie, Siebring and Toporowski)
DEFEATED

IT WAS MOVED AND SECONDED:
That the following motion:

1. *That Council authorize application ALR00034 be forwarded to the Agricultural Land Commission recommending the exclusion of the 2.1*

hectare portion at 3137 Henry Road from the Agricultural Land Reserve be approved;

2. *That Council give first reading for OCP Amendment Bylaw (3137 Henry Road), 2021, No. 3820 to redesignate a 2.1 hectare of the subject property from Rural/ALR to the Chemainus Industrial land use, and to Zoning Amendment Bylaw (3137 Henry Road), 2021, No. 3821 to reclassify a 2.1 hectare portion of the subject property from Rural Restricted (A3) Zone to Light Industrial (I1) Zone;*
3. *That Council approve the list of First Nations and government agencies to receive a referral request:*
    a. Halalt First Nations
    b. School District 79
    c. Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure
    d. Ministry of Agriculture and be given 30 calendar days to respond
    e. Penelakut First Nations
4. *That staff bring back a report with the decision from the Agriculture Land Commission should ALC Exclusion Application ALR00034.*

be amended to include "f. Environmental Advisory Committee (with a focus on the environmental issues with the Chemainus River)" to the list of referral requests. (Opposed: Manhas)
CARRIED

IT WAS MOVED AND SECONDED:

1. That Council authorize application ALR00034 be forwarded to the Agricultural Land Commission recommending the exclusion of the 2.1 hectare portion at 3137 Henry Road from the Agricultural Land Reserve be approved;
2. That Council give first reading for OCP Amendment Bylaw (3137 Henry Road), 2021, No. 3820 to redesignate a 2.1 hectare of the subject property from Rural/ALR to the Chemainus Industrial land use, and to Zoning Amendment Bylaw (3137 Henry Road), 2021, No. 3821 to reclassify a 2.1 hectare portion of the subject property from Rural Restricted (A3) Zone to Light Industrial (I1) Zone;
3. That Council approve the list of First Nations and government agencies to receive a referral request:
    a. Halalt First Nations
    b. School District 79
    c. Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure
    d. Ministry of Agriculture and be given 30 calendar days to respond
    e. Penelakut First Nations
    f. Environmental Advisory Committee (with a focus on the environmental issues with the Chemainus River)
4. That staff bring back a report with the decision from the Agriculture Land Commission should ALC Exclusion Application ALR00034.

(Opposed: Douglas, Marsh)
CARRIED

Council by unanimous consent recessed the meeting at 5:21 p.m. and reconvened at 5:31 p.m.

8.1.2 Parks Capital Budget – Pre-Budget Approval

IT WAS MOVED AND SECONDED:
THAT Council grant pre-budget approval to the following projects:

a. Cowichan Aquatic Centre re-roofing project, if grant funding received, in the amount of $1,700,000;
b. Kinsmen Beach Park Washroom Replacement project in the amount of $428,500;
c. Kaspa Parking Lot Washroom Upgrade project in the amount of $100,000;
d. Nevilane Parking Upgrades (washroom) and Connecting Trail project in the amount of $40,000;
e. Maple Bay Park and Fuller Lake Park Septic System Replacements project in the amount of $130,000; and,
f. Evans Ball Park Barn Upgrades project in the amount of $30,000. CARRIED

8.1.3 Chemainus Festival of Murals Society – Mural Request at Chemainus Bunker

IT WAS MOVED AND SECONDED:
That Council:

a. authorize the installation of the Chemainus Rotary Club mural and associated signage on the north end of the Chemainus Bunker and directs staff to work with the Chemainus Festival of Murals Society on this installation.
b. direct staff to prepare an amendment to the Murals Management Agreement between North Cowichan and the Chemainus Festival of Murals Society, dated March 31, 2017, to include the new Chemainus Rotary Club mural in section 1 of the Agreement. CARRIED

8.1.4 Capital Project – Fuller Lake Arena Roof

IT WAS MOVED AND SECONDED:
That Council:

a. Grants pre-budget approval for the Fuller Lake Arena Re-Roofing Capital Project in the amount of $870,000;
b. Directs staff to amend the 2021 Capital Expenditure Plan so that the project is funded $150,000 from general revenues and $720,000 from the Infrastructure Replacement Reserve Fund. CARRIED

8.1.5 WildSafe BC Late Submission for Grant in Aid

IT WAS MOVED AND SECONDED:
That Council approve a grant-in-aid to the WildSafe BC Cowichan Valley Program in the amount of $3,000 for 2021. CARRIED

8.2 REPORTS FOR INFORMATION

None.

9. NOTICES OF MOTIONS

9.1 Notice of Motion re Rennie Report and the Pace of Growth

Councillor Justice provided notice of the following motion which will be considered under New Business at the April 7, 2021 Regular Council meeting:

"Whereas North Cowichan is currently engaged in an OCP process that will define how growth is managed in our community for at least the next decade;

And whereas an accurate analysis and prediction of likely future growth pressures and rates is central to a realistic approach to growth management;

And whereas municipal staff recently acknowledged that the forecasts of the Rennie Report (2019) do not consider either i) the influence of plans such as the Bell McKinnon Neighbourhood Plan on accelerated rates of growth or, ii) possible effects of the Covid-19 pandemic on the choices people are making about where they choose to live in a post-pandemic world;

And whereas indications are that the traditional growth rate of about 1% per year – a rate which the Rennie Report assumes will continue into the future – appears to be currently being exceeded;

Therefore be it resolved that staff provide Council with:

1. An opinion on whether the Rennie Report predictions remain an accurate and realistic basis for informing our growth management planning,
2. A summary of the options / actions available for ensuring that growth management discussions are grounded in accurate, up to date information about local trends, and
3. Options for managing the pace of growth in the community such that important social, environmental, ecological and economic considerations are not compromised by unanticipated accelerated growth."

13. ADJOURN COUNCIL MEETING TO RECONVENE AT 6:00 P.M.

Councillor Manhas declared a conflict of interest on items 14.1 and 15.1, stating that the applicant is his employer, and he left the meeting at 5:45 p.m.

Councillor Toporowski declared a conflict of interest on items 14.1, 15.1, and 11.1, stating the reason being her affiliation and role on Cowichan Tribes Council and she left the meeting at 5:45 p.m.

Council by unanimous consent adjourned the meeting at 5:45 p.m. and reconvened the meeting at 6:02 p.m.

14. PUBLIC HEARING 6:02 P.M.

14.1 Public Hearing for Zoning Amendment Bylaw (Cannabis Sales - 2763 Beverly Street), 2020, No. 3794

Mayor Siebring outlined the public hearing process and called the public hearing to order at 6:02 p.m. for Zoning Amendment Bylaw (Cannabis Sales - 2763 Beverly Street), 2020, No. 3794.

The Deputy Corporate Officer noted that no petitions or late submissions had been received prior to the hearing.

Council then received a presentation from Glenn Morris, Development Planning Coordinator introducing the proposed amendment.

The Deputy Corporate Officer noted that four submissions, in opposition to the proposed amendment, were received from the public that were included in the public hearing information package on the website and circulated to Council prior to the hearing.

Council then heard from Trevor Dickie, who spoke to the application on behalf of the applicant.

The Mayor called for submissions from members of the public for a first time, and the following people spoke to the application:

- Jas Basi spoke in opposition to the application because of its proximity to the new school
- Phil Floucault spoke in opposition to the application because of its proximity to the new school, risk to children, population density and proximity to other cannabis retailers, lack of free enterprise, market restriction at federal level, market over-saturation, detrimental to existing retailers
- Stuart Pagaduan spoke on behalf of Cowichan Tribes in opposition to the application because of its proximity to other cannabis retailer

The Mayor called for submissions from the public for a second and third time. No one wished to speak to the application.

Mayor Siebring closed the public hearing for Zoning Amendment Bylaw (Cannabis Sales – 2763 Beverly Street), 2020, No. 3794 at 6:35 p.m.

15. RESUME COUNCIL MEETING TO CONSIDER THE BYLAWS

The Regular Council meeting resumed at 6:36 p.m.

15.1 Zoning Amendment Bylaw (Cannabis Sales - 2763 Beverly Street), 2020, No. 3794

IT WAS MOVED AND SECONDED:
That Council give third reading to Zoning Amendment Bylaw (Cannabis Sales 2763 Beverly Street), 2020, 3794. (Opposed: Justice, Marsh and Douglas)
DEFEATED

Councillor Manhas returned to the meeting at 6:59 p.m.

10. UNFINISHED AND POSTPONED BUSINESS

None.

11. NEW BUSINESS

11.1 Reinstating Public Engagement for the Forest Reserve

IT WAS MOVED AND SECONDED:
WHEREAS Council for the District of North Cowichan supported a collaboration with the University of British Columbia, 3GreenTree Consulting, and the Coastal Douglas Fir Conservation Partnership to perform a technical review of North Cowichan's forest management practices and to provide a recommendation for future forest management with input from the public;

AND WHEREAS Council has engaged Lees & Associates to conduct that public engagement on behalf of Council with an increased emphasis on digital engagement;

AND WHEREAS Council resolved to extend their pause on the public engagement until an agreed upon way moving forward is reached during the First Nations consultation process;

AND WHEREAS Council and the Cowichan Nation have come to an understanding through the development of a memorandum of understanding;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that Council direct staff to contact Lees & Associates to resume the public engagement at their earliest convenience and report back to Council on any changes to the timelines and/or actions identified in the engagement plan that was adopted by Council on May 6, 2020. (Opposed: Manhas, Sawrie, Siebring)
DEFEATED

By unanimous consent, Council recessed the meeting at 7:25 p.m. and reconvened at 7:33 p.m.

Councillor Toporowski returned to the meeting at 7:33 p.m.

IT WAS MOVED AND SECONDED:
That the meeting be extended to 9:30 p.m. CARRIED

11.3 UBCM's Local Government Contract Management Committee

IT WAS MOVED AND SECONDED:
That Council endorse Mayor Siebring's application for another term on UBCM's Local Government Contract Management Committee. CARRIED

11.4 Consideration of Recommendations from the Environmental Advisory Committee

IT WAS MOVED AND SECONDED:
That the following motion:

That Council approves the following actions to be taken prior to finalizing the Climate Action and Energy Plan update:

1. *Provide a timeline for recommendations from the Environmental Advisory Committee regarding actions and priorities must be completed by May 15, 2021*
2. *Staff conduct a background and information workshop*

3. *Staff conduct an appropriately scheduled prioritization workshop led by SSG using a multi-criteria analysis process*
4. *That the Environmental Advisory Committee review the draft final report and make recommendations to Council.*

be amended by replacing bullet 1 with the following:

1. That the Environmental Advisory Committee complete its review of the draft Climate Action and Energy Plan policies and actions and have its recommendations to Council by May 15, 2021

and strike out bullet 2. CARRIED

IT WAS MOVED AND SECONDED:
That Council approves the following actions to be taken prior to finalizing the Climate Action and Energy Plan update:

1. That the Environmental Advisory Committee complete its review of the draft Climate Action and Energy Plan policies and actions and have its recommendations to Council by May 15, 2021;
2. That staff conduct an appropriately scheduled prioritization workshop led by SSG using a multi-criteria analysis process;
3. That the Environmental Advisory Committee review the draft final report and make recommendations to Council. CARRIED

11.5 Consent Agenda Item 1.1 [February 24, 2021 Official Community Plan Advisory Group]

The minutes from the February 24, 2021 Official Community Plan Advisory Group, the OCP timeline and OCP process was discussed.

11.6 Consent Agenda Item 2.4 [February 25, 2021 email from The Matraea Centre regarding Cowichan's housing shortage and step-escalation in housing prices]

IT WAS MOVED AND SECONDED:
That the February 25, 2021 email from The Matraea Centre be referred to an upcoming Committee of the Whole meeting for discussion. CARRIED

11.7 Consent Agenda Item 2.9 [March 1, 2021 email from resident regarding Tyee article on the Site C Dam]

This item was discussed.

11.8 Consent Agenda Item 2.11 [March 4, 2021 email from resident regarding proposed cell tower on Mount Tzouhalem]

This item was discussed.

12. QUESTION PERIOD

One question was submitted using the online platform regarding agenda item 11.2.

16. CLOSED SESSION

IT WAS MOVED AND SECONDED:
That Council close the March 17, 2021 Regular Council meeting at 8:34 p.m. to the public on the basis of the following section of the *Community Charter*:

- 90(1)(c) labour relations or other employee relations;
- 90(1)(e) the acquisition, disposition or expropriation of land or improvements, if the council considers that disclosure could reasonably be expected to harm the interests of the municipality;
- 90(1)(f) law enforcement, if the council considers that disclosure could reasonably be expected to harm the conduct of an investigation under or enforcement of an enactment;
- 90(1)(g) litigation or potential litigation affecting the municipality; and
- 90(2)(b) the consideration of information received and held in confidence relating to negotiations between the municipality and a provincial government or the federal government or both, or between a provincial government or the federal government or both and a third party. CARRIED

16.1 Minutes from the March 3, 2021 regular closed Council meeting for adoption

16.2 Closed under section 90(1)(e) land matter

16.3 Closed under Sections 90.1(c), (f), (g) and 90.2(b)

17. RISE AND REPORT

None.

18. ADJOURNMENT

IT WAS MOVED AND SECONDED:
That Council adjourn the meeting at 9:29 p.m. CARRIED

Certified by Corporate Officer

Signed by Mayor

Municipality of North Cowichan
Special Council
MINUTES

March 23, 2021, 5:30 p.m.
Electronically

Members Present	Mayor Al Siebring Councillor Rob Douglas Councillor Christopher Justice Councillor Tek Manhas Councillor Kate Marsh Councillor Rosalie Sawrie Councillor Debra Toporowski
Staff Present	Ted Swabey, Chief Administrative Officer (CAO) Sarah Nixon, Deputy Chief Administrative Officer (D/CAO) David Conway, Director, Engineering Projects Clay Reitsma, Senior Manager, Engineering Don Stewart, Director, Parks and Recreation Rob Conway, Director, Planning and Building Shawn Cator, Director, Operations George Farkas, Director, Human Resources and Corporate Planning Talitha Soldera, Director, Financial Services Jason Birch, Chief Information Officer Walter Wiebe, Senior Manager, Financial Services James Goodman, Manager, Budgets and Infrastructure Tammy Isaachsen, Acting Manager, Communications and Public Engagement Mark Frame, Project Manager Tricia Mayea, Deputy Corporate Officer

1. CALL TO ORDER

There being a quorum present, Mayor Siebring called the meeting to order at 5:31 p.m.

2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

IT WAS MOVED AND SECONDED:
That Council, by unanimous consent of those members present, and in accordance with subsection 127(4) of the *Community Charter,* waive notice to the addition of the following items to the agenda:

(1) North Cowichan Civic Building – Mechanical Contract {5.1 under New Business}
(2) A closed item under Section 90.1(i) legal advice {7.1 under Closed Session}
(3) A closed item under Section 90.1(c) other employee relations {7.2 under Closed Session}

and approve the agenda, as amended. CARRIED

3. PUBLIC INPUT

Council received no public input.

4. BUSINESS

4.1 Chemainus Business Improvement Area Renewal

IT WAS MOVED AND SECONDED:
That Council give first, second and third reading to Chemainus Business Improvement Area Bylaw No. 3823, 2021;

And That Council give notice that it intends to reestablish a Business Improvement Area for Chemainus, unless a valid petition against this service is presented within 30-days after notice had been given. CARRIED

5. NEW BUSINESS

5.1 North Cowichan Civic Building – Mechanical Contract

IT WAS MOVED AND SECONDED:
That Council approve entering into a CCDC 17 Trade Contract between the District of North Cowichan and PML Professional Mechanical Ltd. for the mechanical portion of the North Cowichan Civic Building project in the amount of $2,643,824, plus GST.

(Opposed: Douglas)
CARRIED

6. QUESTION PERIOD

One question was submitted using the online platform.

7. CLOSED SESSION

IT WAS MOVED AND SECONDED:
That Council close the March 23, 2021 Special Council meeting to the public on the basis of the following sections of the *Community Charter;*

- 90(1)(c) labour relations or other employee relations; and
- 90(1)(i) the receipt of advice that is subject to solicitor-client privilege, including communications necessary for that purpose.

and recess at 5:58 p.m. to reconvene at the conclusion of the Committee of the Whole meeting:
CARRIED

7.1 A closed item under Section 90.1(i) legal advice

7.2 A closed item under Section 90.1(c) other employee relations

8. ADJOURNMENT

IT WAS MOVED AND SECONDED:
That Council adjourn the Special Council meeting at 9:30 p.m. CARRIED

Certified by Corporate Officer

Signed by Mayor

COWICHAN GREEN COMMUNITY

North Cowichan Presentation – April 7, 2021

Cowichan Valley Full-Scale Food Processing and Innovation Hub Update

Outline

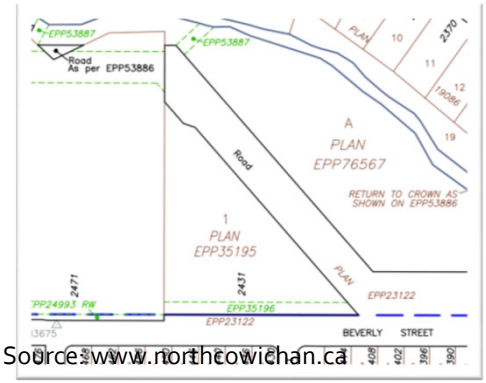
- Site History: 2431 Beverly St.
- 2015 – 2020
  - Incubator Seed Farm
  - Garden Education Center
- Related policies
- 2021 Food Processing & Innovation Hub

Cowichan Green Community
Cultivating food, community, and resilience

History

Source: www.northcowichan.ca

- Former farmland purchased by North Cowichan for dyke in 2009
- Resulting property at 2431 Beverly, a brownfield site
- CGC has a License of Occupation with North Cowichan since 2015
- Funded mainly with grants for job creation, community building, and food security.



Source: www.northcowichan.ca

Related Local Municipality Plans:
2015 University Village Sustainable Local Area Plan

- Collaboration between the Municipality of North Cowichan and City of Duncan
- Based on North Cowichan's 2011 OCP and Duncan's 2007 OCP
- Guide to balancing growth and sustainability, preserving land

Plan Area 9: Somenos Marsh

Related Local Municipal Plans: 2018 Official Community Plan

- Provide Agricultural Opportunity
- Remove economic barriers to viability of food processing and storage
- Promote importance of Agriculture to Urban residents
- Improve quality of life through Agriculture
- Remove regulatory barriers to increased food production

Strengthen the economic vitality of farming
2.1.1.4 The Municipality will take a regional approach to protecting, enhancing and supporting agriculture, working with other jurisdictions to resolve common issues that interfere with the economic vitality of farming. Such issues include drainage problems and the need for irrigation water to promote food production.
2.1.1.5 The Municipality will assist with connecting potential farmers to land.
2.1.1.6 The Municipality will work to remove barriers to economic viability for farmers by supporting direct marketing opportunities, innovations in agricultural product development, and the development of food processing and/or storage at a commercial scale.
2.1.1.7 The Municipality will permit non-agricultural activities as "home occupations" on small agricultural holdings where it is necessary to enable a second income in support of the primary agricultural activity.
Promote the importance of local agriculture
2.1.1.8 It is a municipal priority that North Cowichan's urban residents understand the contributions of agriculture to North Cowichan's quality of life, and that we ensure that the Municipality understands the concerns of farmers.
2.1.1.9 As part of its commitment to food security, the Municipality will strive to reduce regulatory barriers to increased agricultural and food production.

Related Local Municipal Plans: 2018 Official Community Plan

- Encourage productivity of natural environment
- Support expansion of Agri-tourism and Eco-tourism

Encourage new, and support existing, rural- and environmental-based businesses
2.4.2.1 The Municipality supports and encourages the development of new rural and environmentally based businesses, including those that enhance the productivity of the natural environment and link climate change strategies to economic opportunities.
2.4.2.2 The Municipality supports and encourages existing rural and environmentally based businesses, including those that expand on existing agri-tourism and eco-tourism opportunities.
2.4.2.3 The Municipality recognizes that a different standard for home-based businesses may be appropriate for rural areas, in terms of size and type of operations permitted.

Looking Forward….

Goals:

- Become an established community space
- Become a leader in community involvement and farming education
- Improve food security by growing local food and supporting local people
- Integrate food production and processing into existing food programs
- Set up Food Processing & Innovation Hub

Food Processing & Innovation Hubs

- Initiated by the Ministry of Agriculture
- Cowichan selected as one of the eight hubs in BC
- Plans include one community shared commercial HACCP certified kitchen
- Warehouse and storage space for the Cow-op
- Teaching facilities and additional cold/dry storage
- An additional HACCP certified kitchen ((funds permitting)
- Additional greenhouse growing space
- Inclusion garden and community gathering space

Food Hub Partners

- Funders
- North Cowichan – landowners, permit issuers
- CVRD – financial support partner / EDC
- Community Futures – workshops/ training support
- FoundTree – HACCP Consultant
- LEAN – Consultant
- Cow-op – main anchor tenant
- CAS/Young Agrarians – promotion/membership
- Other Food Hubs / Commissary Connect

Funding

- We have received the following grants for the new food hub:
  - Ministry of Agriculture - $800,000 – awarded
  - Moss Park Foundation – $40,000 – awarded
  - Federal Local Food Infrastructure Fund - $225,000 – awarded
  - Island Coastal Economic Trust - $30,000 – awarded
  - Job Creation Partnership - $123,866 – awarded
  - Total $1,218,866
  - …so far ☺

Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada

icet ISLAND COASTAL ECONOMIC TRUST

BRITISH COLUMBIA Ministry of Social Development and Poverty Reduction

BRITISH COLUMBIA Ministry of Agriculture

Food Hub Site Plan

- Existing Building/school portable:
  - Office
  - Seed bank
  - Seed library
  - Training space
- Building extension:
  - Commercial kitchen
  - Washroom
  - Walk-in cooler/freezer
- Warehouse:
  - Storage
  - Office
  - Washroom (potential)
- Second commercial kitchen

Site Concept Plan

Next Steps….

- Extend License of Occupation to 10 - 30 years
- Flood Construction Level exception
- Rezoning/temporary use permit
- Building permits

QUESTIONS?

Report

MUNICIPALITY OF NORTH Cowichan

Date	April 7, 2021	File:	
To	Council		
From	Mairi Campeau, Community Planner	Endorsed:	
Subject	Zoning Amendment Bylaw (1379 Maple Bay Road), 2021", No. 3822 for first and second readings		

Purpose

To introduce Zoning Amendment Bylaw No. 3822, which proposes a site specific zoning amendment to permit the use of an existing building as a detached second dwelling at 1379 Maple Bay Road.

Background

On December 18, 2019, Council adopted the Second Dwelling Rural Lands Policy, establishing the following criteria for site specific zoning amendment applications for second dwellings outside of the Urban Containment Boundary (UCB):

1) That the size of the second dwelling be restricted, by covenant to 92m2 (990.28 sq. ft.) or less;
2) That subdivision be restricted by covenant to prevent subdivision including strata subdivision;
3) That the size of the parcel be a minimum of:
   a) 1 ha (2.5 acre) where no Municipal sewer or water exists
   b) 0.4 ha (1 acres) where no Municipal sewer exists
   c) 0.2 ha (0.5 acres) where Municipal water and sewer exist
4) That siting of secondary dwelling units on agricultural lands be established and restricted by covenant to preserve agricultural land.

Site Context

The 0.94 ha (2.33 ac) subject property is located at 1379 Maple Bay Road (see ATTACHMENTS 1 & 2). The property is located outside of the Urban Containment Boundary, is designated as "rural" in the Official Community Plan and is not in the Agricultural Land Reserve (ALR). The property is zoned Rural (A2) (see ATTACHMENTS 3 & 5) and has municipal water service. A single family dwelling and three accessory buildings exist on the property.

Land Use Context

Properties surrounding the subject property are zoned Rural (A2) or Rural Residential (R1). There is a pocket of five properties on the north side of Maple Bay Road that are excluded from the ALR – three of which are zoned R1 and two are zoned A2 (including the subject property). Other adjacent properties on the northwest side of Maple Bay Road are larger agricultural properties that are within the ALR. On the opposite side of Maple Bay Road, properties are generally zoned R1 and are within the Urban Containment Boundary.

Proposal
The applicant is requesting a site specific amendment to the Rural (A2) Zone to permit a detached, 61.32m^2 (660 sq.ft.) residential dwelling on the north-east side of the property with access from the existing driveway. The existing building consists of a small kitchen area, one bedroom, a washroom with shower, a living area with wood stove and sliding glass doors opening to a private patio. The building was built 60 years ago as an accessory building and has since been used as a dwelling unit. The building is supplied with water and power from the principal dwelling and is connected to a recently upgraded on-site sewage disposal system. Given that this building has been already functioning as a dwelling, the property owners are seeking to bring it into compliance with the Zoning Bylaw and the rural lands policy. The site plan and site photos are provided in ATTACHMENT 4.

In order to fulfill obligations under Council's Second Dwelling Rural Lands Policy (SDRL Policy), registration on the title of a Section 219 covenant agreement securing the policy requirements will be necessary prior to the adoption of the Bylaw. The applicant is aware of the SDRL Policy and commits to registering this covenant on the property title.

This property is also the subject of a Development Variance Permit as the existing structure and another existing accessory building on the property do not comply with the side yard setback requirement of the A2 zone (i.e. 3.0 metres). The development variance permit application to reduce the side yard setback by 1.63m is being considered concurrently with this zoning amendment application.

Discussion

Official Community Plan
Policies that are relevant to this particular application are identified below:

<u>Protect the agricultural land base</u>

2.1.1.2 The Municipality will protect Agricultural Land Reserve (ALR) and other agricultural lands from inappropriate development

2.1.1.3 The Municipality will prevent sprawl into rural areas.

b) Where proposed development abuts the ALR along the UCB, the first priority will be to protect agricultural activity from negative urban influences through the use of such mechanisms as establishing buffers, registering restrictive covenants, and requiring development permits.

<u>Prevent sprawl into rural areas</u>

2.1.5.1 The Municipality will discourage any relaxation of subdivision and zoning standards that have the effect of increasing net density in rural areas.

2.1.5.6 The Municipality may consider rezoning applications in rural areas to allow additional residential units if all of the provisions are met:

i) the proposal demonstrates how the application will produce, complement or expand rural economic development activity or preserve a significant natural area for public use, and incorporate provision for the long-term security of the land

ii) rural viewscapes from public areas will be maintained
iii) any adjacent agricultural or other resources uses (eg forestry, gravel removal) will be appropriately buffered from the residential units
iv) the extension of municipal services is not anticipated or, should service extension be required, the proposed development will cover the full cost of installing, maintaining and operating the additional services; and
v) where property is in the ALR, the ALC has determined that the land is unsuitable for agriculture and has approved subdivision or exclusion.

In evaluating proposals for additional rural residential units created in this manner, the Municipality will seek to ensure that rural residential increases do not, calculated as a proportion, exceed residential increases in growth centres. The Municipality will consider collective ownership or alternative forms of land tenure as appropriate.

2.1.5.9 The Municipality generally discourages the development of accessory (second) residences on rural lands, except to address farm labour housing needs.

2.1.5.10 The Municipality may entertain rezoning applications for rural sites that are zoned inconsistently with surrounding properties. Such applications are permitted only within those areas identified as a rural cluster. The only rezoning considered will be from one rural zone to another: A1, A2, A3, A4 or A5.

The existing building, located on the northeast side of the property was built 60 years ago and staff are unaware of any adverse impacts to the ALR properties to the north. There is a landscaped buffer area between the existing building and the ALR boundary, which is expected to continue to protect the agricultural lands. These A2 zoned properties that are within the ALR are much larger, meet the minimum lot size, and are actively farmed. This is compared to the subject property and those other A2 zoned properties that are excluded from the ALR, that do not meet the minimum lot size of the A2 zone and have access to Municipal water service, suggesting they may function more similar to large R1 zoned properties. This application is not expected to impact adjacent agricultural properties and is generally compliant with the policies identified above.

Zoning Bylaw
Staff note that the A2 zoning that applies to the subject property currently allows up to two dwelling units in the form of a two family dwelling (duplex) or a single family dwelling with a secondary suite. The requested zoning amendment would allow for a second dwelling to be detached from the principal dwelling, maintaining the maximum number of dwellings permitted under the zoning to two.

Servicing and Infrastructure
The following is a summary of the services on site:

- Sanitary – Confirmation is being sought from Island Health that the current system can accommodate the second dwelling
- Storm – This will be accommodated on site
- Water – There is Municipal water at the site and there will be appropriate backflow protection between both units

- Access – The existing access will remain and no changes expected

The applicant is seeking the services of a Registered Onsite Wastewater Practitioner to assess the appropriateness of the current sanitary sewer system and receive confirmation from Island Health. This process is still ongoing, and will be a condition of approval and adoption of this zoning amendment. Approval from Island Health is also required before a building permit is issued for conversion of the structure to a dwelling unit.

Analysis & Conclusions

The following is a summary of the information that was considered as part of staff's review of this application:

Second Dwelling Rural Lands Policy. This application complies with the size criteria of this policy. The applicant intends on registering a Section 219 covenant to limit the size and prevent subdivision of the property. A wastewater practitioner has been retained to assess the adequacy of the sanitary system on site and the completion of this assessment and any necessary changes to the servicing will be a condition of approval of this amendment.

Contributes to Affordable Housing Supply. Approval of this application would contribute to affordable rental housing and additional housing options in the Municipality and in the Quamichan Area. This is encouraged by several policies in the OCP.

No increase in density. There is no net increase in density proposed at the site, it is simply a reallocation of the maximum permitted density for the A2 zone.

Proximity to the UCB. Given the close proximity of the urban containment boundary, just south of the subject property, consideration of this application should address that the property is functioning similar to properties located inside of the UCB, compared to typical large size rural properties. The property is also serviced with Municipal water system, which is uncommon for "true" rural properties. This property is not considered to be in the urban-rural interface as it is not within the UCB.

Protection of Agricultural Land. The property immediately adjacent to the north is within the ALR. There is a landscaped buffer between the existing building and this property that is expected to continue to protect the agricultural lands and staff are unaware of any adverse impacts that have occurred.

Pocket excluded from ALR. The subject property is within a pocket of five properties on the north side of Maple Bay Road that are excluded from the ALR, and are either zoned A2 or R1. As identified, the subject property and other A2 zoned properties in this pocket are not meeting the minimum lot size and are more conducive to R1 zoned properties than a rural agriculture property.

It is staff's opinion that this application adequately complies with Municipal policies.

Communications & Engagement

Should Council give First and Second Reading to this Bylaw and move the application forward, owners and occupants of neighbouring properties will have an opportunity to provide input on the proposed Zoning Bylaw amendment at a public hearing. Neighbouring properties within a 60m radius of the subject property will be notified of this application, and advertisements will be placed in the local newspaper, as required by the *Local Government Act*.

Options

Option 1 (Recommended):

> That Council give first and second reading to Zoning Amendment Bylaw (1379 Maple Bay Road), 2021", No. 3822 to permit a second dwelling unit at 1379 Maple Bay Road and a public hearing be scheduled in accordance with the *Local Government Act*.

Option 2:

> That Council deny Zoning Amendment Application ZB000136 to permit a second residential dwelling at 1379 Maple Bay Road.

Implications

If Council denies the application, the applicant would have to decommission the building as a dwelling unit and revert it back to an accessory building use.

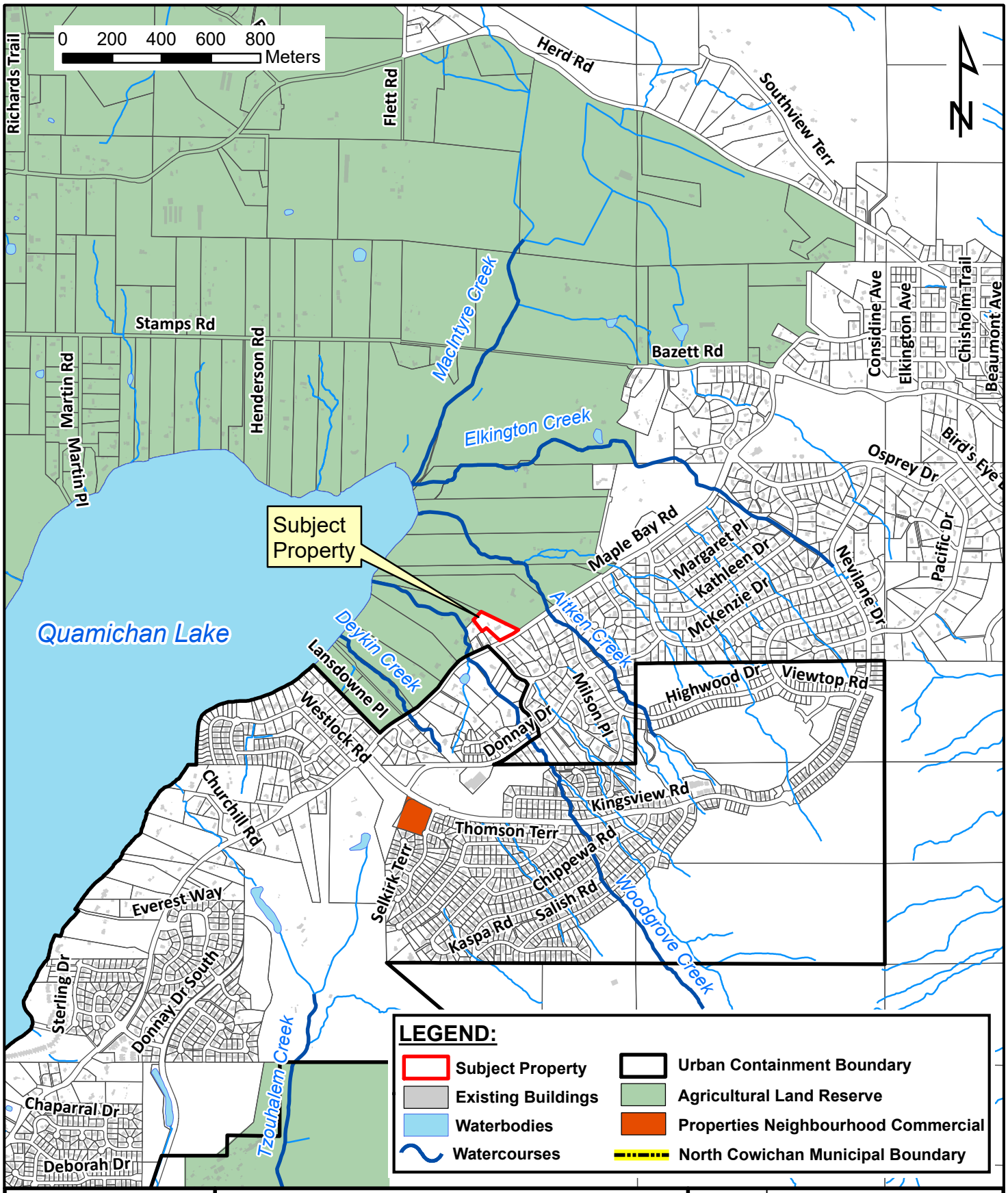
If Council approves the application and zoning amendment bylaw, the applicant would be required to obtain a building permit and bring the building into compliance with the Building Bylaw and BC Building Code.

Recommendation

That Council give first and second reading to Zoning Amendment Bylaw (1379 Maple Bay Road), 2021", No. 3822 to permit a second dwelling at 1379 Maple Bay Road and a public hearing be scheduled in accordance with the *Local Government Act*.

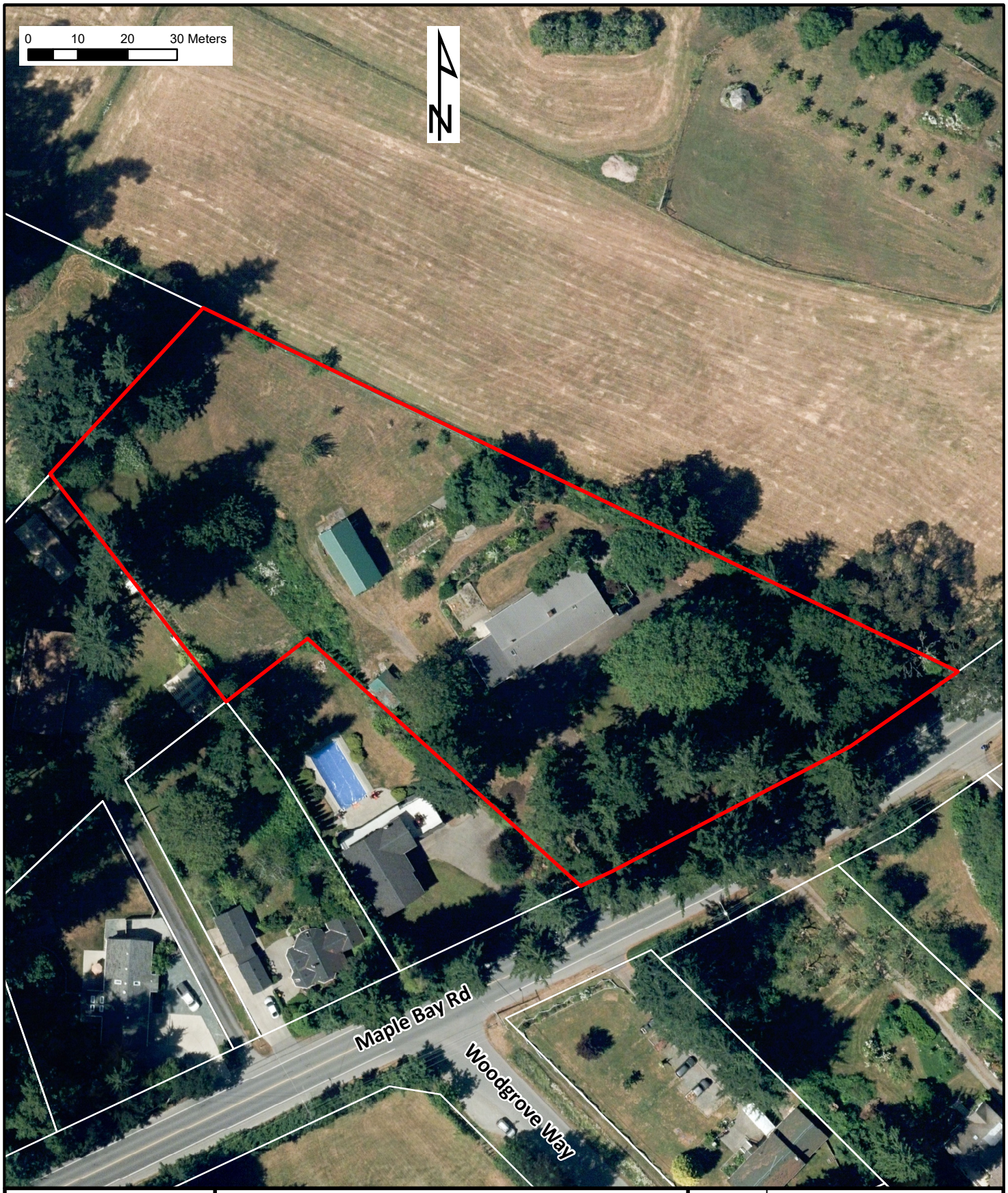
Attachments:

1. Location Map
2. Orthophoto
3. Zoning
4. Site Plan
5. Rural Zone (A2)
6. Draft Zoning Amendment Bylaw No. 3822
7. Letter or Rationale



MUNICIPALITY OF NORTH Cowichan

LOCATION MAP	DATE:	February 10, 2021
1379 Maple Bay Road	TYPE:	Zoning Amendment
	FILE#:	ZB000136



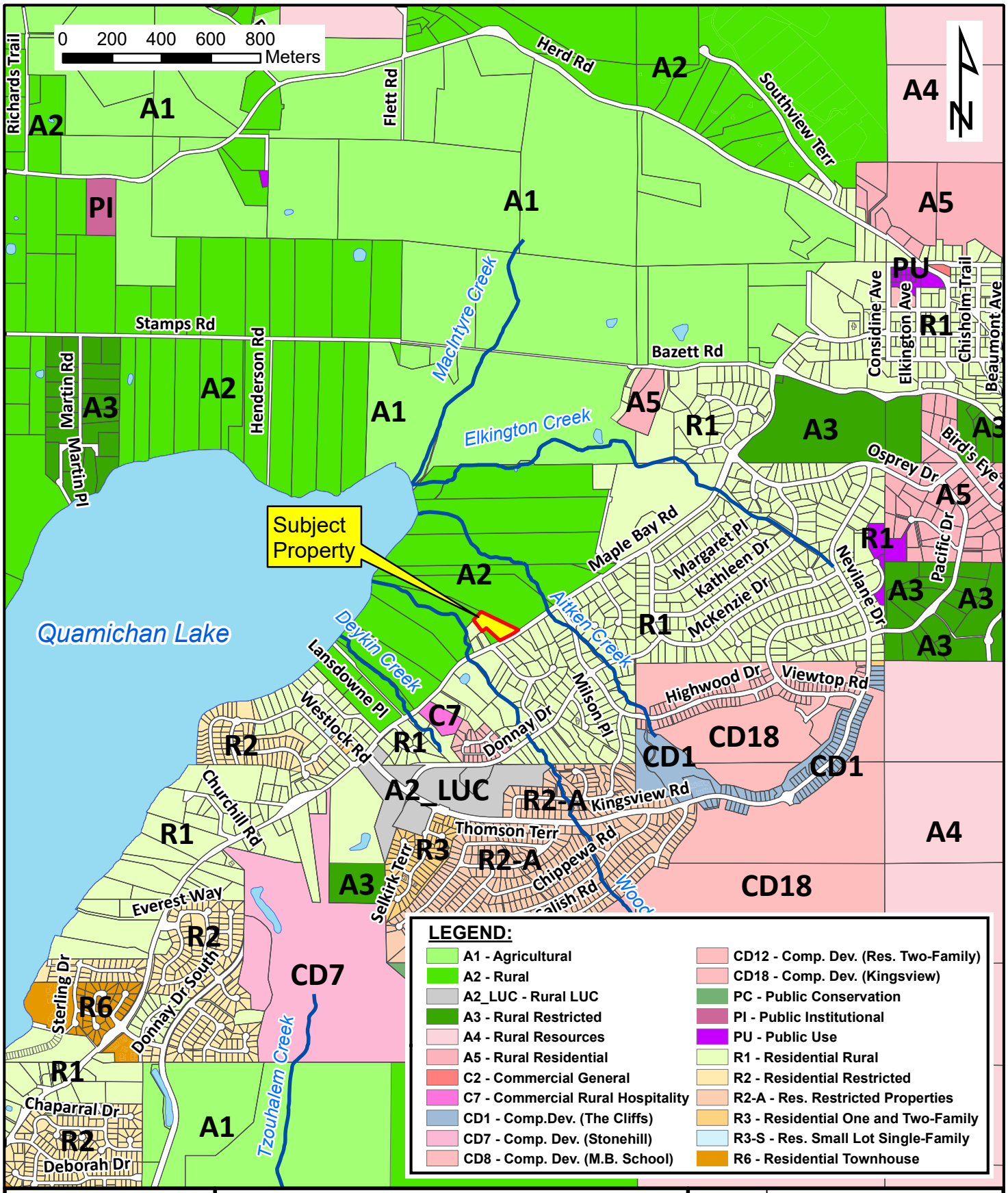
MUNICIPALITY OF NORTH Cowichan

ORTHOPHOTO MAP

(Orthophoto is from 2019 aerial photography)

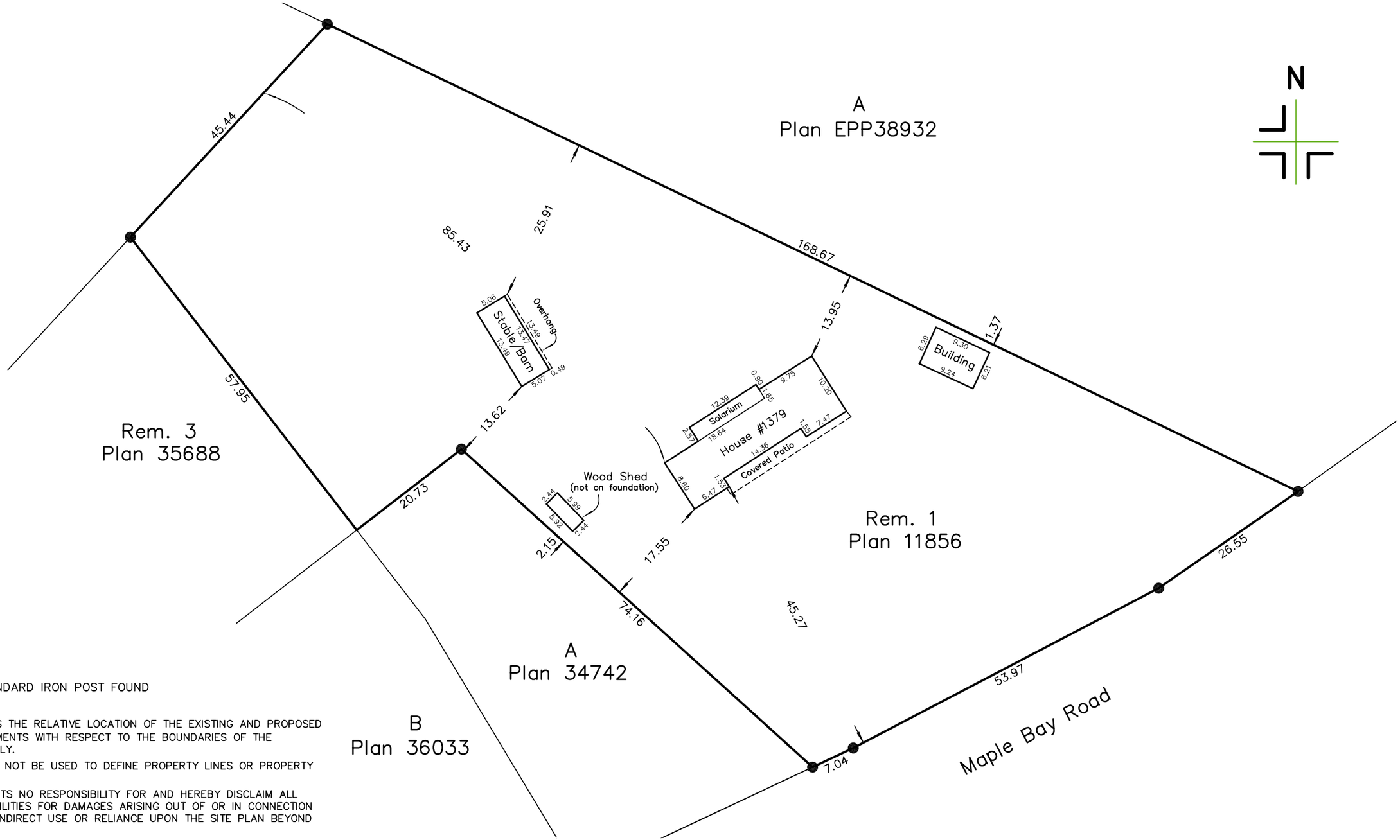
1379 Maple Bay Road

DATE:	February 10, 2021
TYPE:	Zoning Amendment
FILE#:	ZB000136



MUNICIPALITY OF NORTH Cowichan

ZONING MAP	DATE:	February 10, 2021
1379 Maple Bay Road	TYPE:	Zoning Amendment
	FILE#:	ZB000136



● DENOTES STANDARD IRON POST FOUND

THIS SITE PLAN SHOWS THE RELATIVE LOCATION OF THE EXISTING AND PROPOSED STRUCTURES/IMPROVEMENTS WITH RESPECT TO THE BOUNDARIES OF THE DESCRIBED PARCEL ONLY.

THIS SITE PLAN SHALL NOT BE USED TO DEFINE PROPERTY LINES OR PROPERTY CORNERS.

THE SIGNATORY ACCEPTS NO RESPONSIBILITY FOR AND HEREBY DISCLAIM ALL OBLIGATIONS AND LIABILITIES FOR DAMAGES ARISING OUT OF OR IN CONNECTION WITH ANY DIRECT OR INDIRECT USE OR RELIANCE UPON THE SITE PLAN BEYOND ITS INTENDED USE.

SITE PLAN SHOWING:
LOT 1, SECTION 4, RANGE 3, COMIAKEN DISTRICT, PLAN 11856, EXCEPT PARTS IN PLANS 21251 AND 34742.

Client: R.E.B. DEVELOPMENT SERVICES			Civic Address: 1379 MAPLE BAY ROAD
File: 20–155	Scale: 1:600	Drawn by: DRW	Property Zoning: A2

0 25 50

SCALE 1:600
DISTANCES SHOWN ARE IN METRES.

Certified correct this 15th day of January, 2021.

_____ B.C.L.S.
(This document is not valid unless originally signed and sealed.)

Turner & Associates
land surveying inc.
250.753.9778
435 Terminal Avenue North
Nanaimo, BC V9S 4J8
www.turnersurveys.ca

Rural Zone (A2)

Permitted Uses

52 (1) The permitted uses for the A2 zone are as follows:

Accessory Dwelling Unit
Agriculture
Agricultural Storage
Assisted Living
Bed and Breakfast
Community Care Facility
Craft Distillery
Forestry Use
Greenhouse
Home-based Business
Kennel
Manufactured Home
Riding Stable
Single-Family Dwelling
Supportive Housing
Temporary Mobile Home (subject to the Temporary Mobile Home Permit Bylaw). [BL3754]
Two-Family Dwelling [BL3302, BL3457, BL3520]

Minimum Lot Size

(2) The minimum permitted lot size for the A2 zone is 2 hectares (4.94 acres).

Minimum Frontage

(3) The minimum permitted frontage for the A2 zone is 75.0 m (246.06').

Density

(4) The maximum permitted density in the A2 zone is one residential building per lot, except in the following circumstances:

(a) where land is not within the Agricultural Land Reserve, and is at least two hectares (4.94 acres) in area, a maximum of two residential buildings are permitted with a maximum of two dwelling units;

(b) where land is within the Agricultural Land Reserve, and is at least two hectares (4.94 acres) in area, additional dwelling units may, with Agricultural Land Commission approval, be permitted for bona fide farm labour;

(c) where a Temporary Mobile Home is permitted, subject to the Temporary Mobile Home Permit Bylaw; [BL3754]

(d) despite paragraph (a), a maximum of two residential buildings with a total combined maximum of three dwelling units is permitted on 941 Arbutus Avenue (PID 000-232-556);

(e) despite paragraph (a), a maximum of two residential buildings with a total combined maximum density of two dwelling units is permitted on the following properties:

(i) 3252 Gibbins Road (PID 006-360-378);
(ii) 3286 Gibbins Road (PID 004-555-562);
(iii) 3276 Gibbins Road (PID 002-343-789);
(iv) 3240 Gibbins Road (PID 002-742-501);
(v) Lot 1..., Plan 21749, Banks Road (PID 002-705-087);
(vi) B-3228 Gibbins Road (PID 001-252-267);
(vii) Lot 4..., Plan 8636, Cliffs Road (PID 005-586-429);
(viii) 3088 Cliffs Road (PID 005-586-445);
(ix) Lot 5..., Plan 8636, Cliffs Road (PID 005-586-437);

(x) Part of Lot 11..., Plan 2785, Banks Road (PID 006-360-742);
(xi) Part of Lot 1..., Plan 9537 (PID 005-338-859);
(xii) A-3228 Gibbins Road (PID 000-041-874);
(xiii) repealed;
(xiv) 3246 Gibbins Road (PID 028-738-080);
(xv) Lot A..., Plan 10506 (PID 005-267-412);
(xvi) 3186 Gibbins Road (PID 005-409-292).
[BL3287; BL3697; BL3757]

Maximum Lot Coverage

(5) The maximum permitted lot coverage for the A2 zone is 10% of the lot area.

Minimum Setbacks

(6) The minimum permitted setbacks for the A2 zone are as follows:

(a) Single-Family Dwellings and Two-Family Dwellings
Yard, Front, 6.0 m (19.68')
Yard, Side, 3.0 m (9.84')
Yard, Rear, 8.0 m (26.25')

(b) Mobile Homes
Yard, Front, 30.0 m (98.42')
Yard, Side, 12.0 m (39.37')
Yard, Rear, 12.0 m (39.37')

(c) All Other Principal Buildings
Yard, Front, 25 m (82.02')
Yard, Side, 15 m (49.21')
Yard, Rear, 15 m (49.21')".
Yard, Abutting Residentially Zoned Property, 30 m (98.42') [BL3767]

(d) Accessory Buildings and Structures (Excluding Fences)
Yard, Front, 8.0 m (26.25')
Yard, Side, 3.0 m (9.84')
Yard, Rear, 8.0 m (26.25')

(e) Temporary Mobile Homes
To be sited in accordance with the provisions of the Temporary Mobile Home Permit Bylaw. [BL3754]

(f) Kennel
Yard, Front, 30 m (98.43')
Yard, Side, 30 m (98.43')
Yard, Rear, 30 m (98.43') [BL3758]

Maximum Building Height

(7) (a) The maximum permitted building height for buildings, containing one or more dwelling units, within the A2 zone is 9.0 m (29.53').

(b) Despite the foregoing, the height of other farm buildings is subject to the provisions of the ACNBC Farm Building Code 1995.

Conditions of Use

(8) The conditions of use for the A2 zone are as follows:

(a) Bed and breakfast uses may have no more than six sleeping units and may be conducted in a maximum of one accessory building (with no kitchen) and/or one dwelling unit.

(b) Limited farm sale of agricultural products may be sold directly to the public provided that:

(i) a minimum of 50% of the agricultural products offered for sale are produced on the land;

(ii) the covered retail sales area does not exceed 100 m^2 (1076.4 sq. ft.); and

(iii) the retail sales are clearly ancillary to the farm use.

(c) Assisted Living, Supportive Housing, and Community Care Facilities may be permitted provided that

(i) the number of residents does not exceed ten, including resident staff,

(ii) the use is within a single-family dwelling unit only, which for clarity does not include a two-family dwelling,

(iii) approval from the Agricultural Land Commission is obtained, where the property is within the Agricultural Land Reserve,

(iv) valid health permits for septic systems or on-site wastewater treatment systems are obtained, and

(v) each single-family dwelling unit may contain this use where the property is two hectares (4.94 acres) or greater and has two single-family dwelling units.

(d) despite section 52 (1), "campground (seasonal)" is a permitted use on 3042 River Road, and "campground (short-term)" is a permitted use on 8701 Chemainus Road, 8682 and 9090 Trans-Canada Highway, and 3800 Gibbins Road for a maximum of 25 campsites during a gathering for an event. [BL3662]

(e) [Repealed; BL3697].

(f) a maximum of 14 gatherings for an event with up to 150 attendees, and 20 events with up to 20 attendees, are permitted per year on 3800 Gibbins Road.
[BL3083, BL3302, BL3323, BL3521, BL3554, BL3662]

(g) A kennel must not be located on a lot less than 8000 m2 (1.98 acres) in area. [BL3758]

The Corporation of the District of North Cowichan

Zoning Amendment Bylaw (1379 Maple Bay Road), 2021

Bylaw No. 3822

The Council of The Corporation of The District of North Cowichan, in open meeting assembled, enacts as follows:

1 This Bylaw may be cited as "Zoning Amendment Bylaw (1379 Maple Bay Road), 2021", No. 3822.

2 Zoning Bylaw 1997, No. 2950, section 52 (4) [Density in the Rural Zone (A2)] is amended by adding the following paragraph as subsection (e)(xviii):

"(e)(xviii) 1379 Maple Bay Road (PID 004 893 409)"

READ a first time on
READ a second time on
CONSIDERED at a Public Hearing on
READ a third time on
COVENANT registered on
ADOPTED on

CORPORATE OFFICER

PRESIDING MEMBER

R.E.B. Development Services

1342 Oakwood Place, Duncan B.C. V9L 5R3 Phone 250-246-7640

Date: July 10, 2020
File: 2017/Dowty

Municipality Of North Cowichan
P.O. Box 278, Duncan B.C.
V9L 3X4
Attn: Mr. Rob Conway
Director Of Planning

Re: Proposed Zoning Amendment Of
Lots 1, Section 4, Range 3,
Comiaken District, Plan 11856
PID # 004-893-409
1379 Maple Bay Road, Maple Bay, B.C.

Dear Sir;

The subject property is owned by my client Scott Dowty and is 9838 sq. m. in area with a main house a small cabin, barn and two small sheds. Mr. Dowty has recently completed an extensive renovation of the main house and the small cabin. The current Rural Zone (A-2) only permits one residential building. For many years the cabin has been used as additional accommodation for guests and family. With the recent policy change by council allowing consideration of a second dwelling Mr Dowty has directed me to apply for a zoning amendment to bring the cabin into compliance with the Municipal bylaws.

The cabin is about 22' x 30' and is 660 sq. ft. and from what we understand was constructed about 60 years ago as a garage and workshop. We believe that in the seventies the garage was renovated to include accommodation for family and friends. The cabin consists of a small kitchen area, one bedroom, a washroom with shower and a living area with a wood stove and sliding glass doors opening to a private patio with views over the valley to Richards Mountain. Over the years there had been little in upgrades until Mr Dowty purchased the property in 2018.

The cabin is set off to the east side of the property as shown on the Site Plan and has ample area for parking as well as area for a private garden. The cab is supplied with water and power from the existing dwelling and is connected to a recently upgraded on site sewerage disposal system.

Attached are some recent photographs of the cabin and existing dwelling and we are compiling a photo history of the recent cabin renovations.

Cont./ 2

Existing Renovated Cabin – View From Entrance Looking North

Con./3

Existing Renovated Cabin – View From Driveway Looking East

Cont./4

Existing Main House – View From Entrance Looking North

Cont./5

Existing Renovated Cabin – View Toward Patio Looking South

Cont./6

R.E.B. Development Services

1342 Oakwood Place, Duncan B.C. V9L 5R3 Phone 250-246-7640

Re: Proposed Zoning Amendment **(CONT.)**
Of Lots 1, Section 4, Range 3,
Comiaken District, Plan 11856
PID # 004-893-409
1379 Maple Bay Road, Maple Bay, B.C.

When this application has been reviewed by the various municipal departments let us know who we will need to meet to inspect the cabin and review the recent renovations.

Should you require additional information please do not hesitate to contact me either by e-mail or call/text 250-246-7640.

Sincerely Yours

Richard E. Buckles
R.E.B. Development Services

Report

MUNICIPALITY OF NORTH Cowichan

Date	April 7, 2021	File:	6480-30 2019.01
To	Council	Prospero File:	SPP00040
From	Rob Conway, Director, Planning and Building	Endorsed:	
Subject	Official Community Plan Project – Status Update		

Purpose

To inform Council of the Official Community Plan (OCP) project status and obtain Council direction on potential revisions to project scope, schedule and budget.

Background

The rewrite of the Official Community Plan ("the OCP Update") was identified as a priority of Council in its 2019-2022 Strategic Plan. On June 5, 2019, Council passed a resolution supporting the process for rewriting the OCP as outlined in the April 3, 2019 report by the Community Planning Coordinator. The process Council endorsed involved four project phases to take place over a two year period, concluding in the Spring of 2021.

While significant progress has been made on the OCP Update, there have also been significant delays in the project schedule due to unanticipated issues, expansions to project scope and shifting expectations. This report is intended to brief Council on the current status of the project, outline reasons for why the project has been delayed, and to provide options and a recommendation for completing the project.

Discussion

OCP Update Process:

The OCP Update process endorsed by Council involved four phases to be completed over a two year period:

Phase 1 and 4 of the process were to be undertaken by North Cowichan staff with Phase 2 and 3 of the project to be completed by a consulting team with support from Municipal staff. The budget for the project was established at $202,000.

Phase 1 (Project Background, Planning & Launch)

The first phase of the OCP Update was completed internally and included the following tasks:

- Project scoping
- Establishment of project objectives
- Review and analysis of existing policy
- Data gathering
- Engagement strategy (including selection and appointment of Advisory Group and Ambassadors)
- Procurement (request for proposals and selection of project consultant)

This initial phase of the project was anticipated to conclude in July of 2019 but was not fully completed until January of 2020. Reasons for delays with the initial phase include:

- Selection process OCP Advisory Group and Ambassadors extended due to change from direct appointment to an open call application process
- Unexpected staff departures
- The procurement process for the OCP consultant occurred while other major procurements were underway
- Period for submitting proposals extended to encourage more bidders and a more competitive process
- Negotiation with selected firm required before contract completed

Phase 2 (Community Vision and Goals)

The scope and budget for Phase 2 and 3 of the OCP Update was outlined in a Request for Proposals that was issued on October 30, 2019. The work plan for Phases 2 and 3 (Attachment A) were provided in the MODUS proposal. The MODUS work plan formed the basis of the contract, with fees charges based on the time assigned to each work plan task. The contract allows for the work plan to be adjusted, but any alterations that require additional work by the consultants also requires that either the amount of hours be reduced elsewhere in the work plan or that the project budget increased.

The Phase 2 Work Plan from the MODUS contract included the following deliverables:

- Engagement Plan
- Provide support for staff-prepared Background Briefs
- Policy Gap Analysis Report
- Vision and Goals engagement process and report
- Community Character and Values engagement process and report

Just as Phase 2 commenced, the World Health Organization declared the COVID-19 pandemic. The pandemic has profoundly altered how all levels of government deliver services and interact with the public, and has required substantial alterations to the structure of the OCP Update. Some of these changes have involved explicit changes to the project, such as the digital engagement process endorsed by Council on May 6, 2020. Other changes have been in real time, to respond to issues and deficiencies encountered with new ways of engaging with the public. The implementation of digital engagement methods while staying compliant with legislated requirements for open and transparent process during the pandemic have been generally successful, but it has required changes to the project and a reallocation of project resources that were not anticipated when the process and timelines for the OCP Update project were presented to Council in June of 2019.

Delays encountered in Phase 2 include the following:

- The Engagement Plan required revision to address a fundamentally different approach to community engagement.
- The Vision and Goals survey was expanded to allow respondents to provide more written comment than is typical for this type of survey. This was done to allow the public an opportunity to share thoughts and opinions that would otherwise be raised in a public meeting format. This add-on required more of the consultant's time to review and collate the responses received.
- Two community dialogue sessions were added to allow the public more opportunity to provide input on community character. This was done to supplement the photo-based engagement process after some participants expressed frustration with the restrictive format for providing input on community character.

- Community character has proven more challenging to identify and capture than initially thought. "Respect Community Character" is one of the objectives of the OCP Update project and is an important part of the project because of the unique communities that comprise North Cowichan. This part of the project is taking longer than anticipated, partly because of the limitations on community engagement and partly because of the subjective and intangible nature of community character. Staff will be working with the Community Ambassadors to refine the draft community character profiles before they are presented to Council and the public.

With the exception of Community Character Profiles, the Phase 2 deliverables are now complete.

Phase 3 (Plan Development)

Phase 3 OCP Update deliverables include:

Growth Scenarios:

- Develop growth scenarios
- Consult with OCP Advisory Group and Ambassadors on scenarios
- Engage with public on growth scenarios
- Prepare Growth Scenario Report for presentation to Council

OCP Policy Chapters:

- Draft framework for policies
- Consult OCP Advisory Committee on policies
- Draft policies
- Engage with public on policies
- Council workshop on policies

Final Draft OCP

- Draft OCP document
- Inter-governmental referral and consultation
- Council workshop
- Presentation to public

Phase 3 was scheduled over six months, with each activity and task taking just a few weeks to complete.

Phase 3 commenced in early 2021 with the development of the MODUS Growth Management memo. The memo presented to Council on January 26 outlined a process for consulting with the public on where future growth should go, the type of growth we should be planning for, and how to align growth with community character. Council endorsed a process that involved working with the OCP Advisory Group to develop three growth scenario options that would be used to engage with the public about growth management and land use. Meetings with the OCP Advisory Group on February 10 and February 24 identified concerns with the process outlined in the Growth Management memo and with the proposed scenarios, including:

- Use a more nuanced and values-based approach to scenario development
- Align the criteria for evaluating scenarios more closely with principles and goals
- Provide more baseline information such as environmental mapping and a summary of existing development potential

At the February 24 OCP Advisory Group meeting a five member working group was formed to work with MODUS and planning staff to re-work and improve the growth management scenarios. Environmental mapping, an analysis of development potential under existing zoning, and memos on servicing and environmental issues and considerations were prepared to support the working group. The initial meeting of the working group took place on March 26 and a second meeting is scheduled for April 16.

Phase 3 is already two months behind schedule and it has become apparent that the time and budget allocated for growth management scenario development was not satisfactory for meaningfully involving the OCP Advisory Group in scenario development. Staff and the consultants accept responsibility for not presenting better developed scenarios and baseline information at the initial Advisory Group meeting. However, we have also found that the Advisory Group wishes to be more engaged in the growth management scenarios than the Council-endorsed project plan anticipates and allows. The strong interest the Advisory Group has demonstrated that exploring creative and innovative approaches to community planning cannot be easily accomplished in a single 2 hour video conference meeting.

Staff in no way wish to suggest that the OCP Advisory Group is delaying the OCP Update project. Rather, we are observing a desire from Advisory Group members to have a meaningful role in the structure and content development of the OCP. This level of involvement is not conducive to a rigid and compressed schedule. If it is Council's wish to have the OCP volunteers engaged at more of an "involve" level, accommodation will need to be made for this in the project schedule and budget.

Project Scope Expansion:

Since Council endorsed the OCP Update process and schedule in June of 2019 there have been no less than eight resolutions passed that impact or potentially impact the OCP Update project (See Attachment B). It is entirely Council's prerogative to provide such directives, and many of the resolutions may lead to an OCP that better addresses the values and priorities of Council. Nevertheless, some of the resolutions have expanded the scope of the project and therefore the project schedule and budget.

Project Schedule and Budget Implications:

Schedule:

The OCP Update project schedule anticipated that Phase 3 of the project would be completed over 6 months. Based on where the project is today, and following the process outlined in the MODUS work plan, a draft OCP could be produced by the end of October if the work plan in the MODUS proposal is followed rigorously and there are no further delays or scope changes. An additional four months would then be required for the bylaw adoption process (Phase 4). Any deviations from the project schedule would extend the completion date. Our experience with growth management scenario development suggests the OCP Advisory Group and OCP Ambassadors will want to be actively involved in policy development and the preparation of other OCP content. We may also find that public engagement and participation requires more time and resourcing than initially anticipated if recent public discussions about land use and development in the Bell McKinnon Road area are any indication. It is unlikely that Phase 3 can be completed before the end of October unless the scope of the project, including Advisory Group, Ambassador Teams, and community participation is scaled back.

There is an element of unpredictability to an OCP review and update process that requires re-assessment and adjustment to respond to changing circumstances. The process for a conventional "boiler plate" type OCP is more easily controlled because the scope can be pre-determined and the plan preparation process follows standard community planning practices. OCP reviews that strive for creative and innovative approaches to complex and controversial issues and that are truly responsive to community input can be much less predictable and require community support to be accepted and successfully implemented.

North Cowichan's OCP Update project is at a stage where re-assessment and adjustments are necessary. The project has progressed at a slower pace than anticipated while the project scope has expanded. Additional time and budget will be needed to complete the project following the process and project scope that was endorsed by Council in 2019 and subsequent amendments by Council resolutions. There is also the potential for additional delays if upcoming community engagements and consultations with government agencies, adjacent governments and First Nations require additional process or changes to the project work plan.

Budget:
The initial OCP Update budget was established at $202,000. $100,000 was allocated from the 2019 budget with $102,000 allocated from the 2020 budget. An additional $30,000 has been allocated in the 2021 budget to cover costs associated with digital engagement and project scope changes identified to Council on November 10, 2020 (Attachment C).

The contract with MODUS for Phase 2 and 3 is for $174,843. As of February 28, 2021 approximately 85% of the contract has been paid. Available budget remaining for the project as of February 28, including the $30,000 from the 2021 budget, is $70, 695. This will not be sufficient to complete the remainder of the project.

Options:

Two options are proposed for Council's consideration. The first is to continue with the process that has been established, with adjustments to the project work plan, schedule and budget. The second option is to prioritize the project schedule so that Phase 3 is completed by the end of August and that the project scope be adjusted to accomplish that. These two options are summarized below:

Option 1 – Continue with current process:

Schedule	• Estimated completion of Phase 3 by October 31, 2021 • Estimated OCP adoption (Completion of Phase 4) by February 28, 2022
Budget	• $55,000 in addition to existing budget allocations (estimate)
Considerations	• Revised schedule and budget assumes rigorous project management and no expansion of project scope beyond what has already occurred. • The current OCP work plan allows for the OCP volunteers to be consulted about project deliverables before they are forwarded to Council. Council direction and amendment to the project schedule is required if the volunteers are to participate at the "involve" or "collaborate" range of the International Association of Public Participation (IAP2) spectrum as they have been. • Engagement with the Environmental Advisory Committee (EAC) is not currently part of the OCP work plan. Involvement of the EAC in the OCP Update will add a minimum of one month to the project schedule. Risks to schedule and budget include community reaction to draft plan and responses from intergovernmental and First Nation consultation.

	• Project schedule will allow Zoning Bylaw review to commence before the end of 2021. Completion of the review in Council's term is possible if the new OCP adopted by the end of February, 2022.

Option 2 – Reduced scope:

Schedule	• Estimated completion of Phase 3 by August 30, 2021 • Estimated OCP adoption (Completion of Phase 4) by December 15, 2021
Budget	• $10,000 in addition to existing budget allocations (estimate)
Considerations	• Role of MODUS reduced to completing growth scenarios and drafting OCP chapters. • Existing OCP policy retained wherever possible and appropriate to reduce project scope. • Scope of engagement with community and involvement of Advisory Group and Ambassadors scaled back to "inform" and "consult" on the IAP2 spectrum. • Community engagement, interactions with OCP Advisory Group /Ambassadors, intergovernmental and First Nation consultation and presentations to Council undertaken by Municipal staff. • Will require Planning and Communications staff to be more involved in OCP Update, thereby removing capacity for advancing other Council priorities and delivering services to public. • Project schedule will allow Zoning Bylaw review to commence in fall of 2021 with completion of a draft bylaw early summer of 2022.

Summary:

The OCP Update has not fully followed the path that was originally envisioned when it was conceived in the spring of 2019. COVID-19 caused significant disruptions to the project, both in terms how the Municipality and MODUS engage with the public and the risks, uncertainties and limitations that new and untried community engagement methods have imposed. The climate emergency, the housing affordability crisis, food security, homelessness, the opioid crisis, Reconciliation, diversity and inclusion and income inequality are other major issues that are influencing the OCP project. Past assumptions and established land use patterns are being challenged, and some are looking to the OCP Update for a new paradigm that will provide solutions to the many issues faced by North Cowichan, its residents and our larger society. These are very weighty expectations to fulfill.

The success of the OCP Update will ultimately be determined by how it is accepted by the community. Allowing opportunities for meaningful engagement, including participation and involvement by the OCP volunteers, is essential to the success of the project. Meaningful engagement involves building trust, explaining and discussing issues, and listening to a wide range of opinions and perspectives. The OCP Update digital engagement process endorsed by Council allowed for meaningful engagement, but adjustment to that process may be necessary if the digital engagement method proves inadequate or if other approaches are necessary to respond to issues and circumstances encountered during the course of the project.

Of the two options outlined in this report, staff recommend Option 1. All participants in the OCP Update undoubtedly wish to see the project completed as quickly as possible but compressing the project schedule and not allowing adequate time for thoughtful policy development informed by input from the OCP volunteers and the public could be counterproductive and ultimately compromise the content and legitimacy of the new OCP.

If Council wishes to prioritize the completion of the OCP in 2021 (Option 2), the scope of the project and the project process objectives could be reduced to accomplish that. However, there are risks and potential consequences to reducing project scope and Council should have a good understanding of the compromises and trade-offs involved. If Council is interested in proceeding with Option 2 we recommend that a revised work plan be prepared and presented at a future meeting for Council's review.

Options

Option 1 (Recommended):

1. That staff be directed to prepare a revised Phase 3 OCP Update project schedule based on the February 10, 2020 MODUS work plan and a completion date of October 31, 2021.

2. That staff be directed to amend the 2021 Planning budget to add $55,000 for completion of the OCP Update with funds to come from previous year surplus.

Option 2 (Alternate):

1. That staff be directed to prepare a reduced scope work plan for Phase 3 of the OCP Update project based on an estimated completion date of August 30, 2021.

2. That staff be directed to amend the 2021 Planning budget to add $10,000 for completion of the OCP Update with funds to come from previous year surplus.

Recommendation

1. That staff be directed to prepare a revised Phase 3 OCP Update project schedule based on the February 10, 2020 MODUS work plan and a completion date of October 31, 2021.

2. That staff be directed to amend the 2021 Planning budget to add $55,000 for completion of the OCP Update with funds to come from previous year surplus.

Attachments:

Attachment A – MODUS Work Plan
Attachment B – Council Resolutions
Attachment C – November 10, 2020 Report

MODUS
from insight to impact

PHASE 2: COMMUNITY VISION & LOCAL CHARACTER MAPPING

Phase 2 consists of finalizing project initiation, including the engagement plan, identification of opportunities and constraints, and confirmation of vision and community character values.

	Activity	Description	Week of
2.1	Project Kick Off Meeting and Community Tour	Meet with project staff at municipal hall to go over first steps. Deeper discussion of engagement planning, communication resources/tactics, community character reports and resource needs. Clarify roles, responsibilities, risks and timelines. We will also tour the community and start to meet some of the OCP volunteers.	February 24, 2020
2.2	Create ENGAGEMENT PLAN Framework	Based on the IAP2 Framework and drawing on best practice examples we will draft a framework for the engagement plan.	March 2, 2020
2.3	Collaborate on Engagement Plan with OCP Advisory Group and Community Ambassadors	We will develop the engagement plan by running the MODUS "issues and stakeholders mapping exercise" with the OCP Advisory Group and Community Ambassadors. This will identify who needs to be engaged, who has influence and interest in the project, and how best to engage with them. Engagement activities could include on-line surveys, workshops and/or open houses but will be limited to the hours we have allocated in the budget. Including these volunteers will help enrich the planning process and assign roles/tasks to augment consultant and project team resources.	March 9, 2020
2.4	Collaborate on Engagement Plan with OCP Steering Committee	A separate meeting will be held with the OCP Project Steering Committee to garner input on the plan.	March 9, 2020
2.5	Draft the Engagement Plan	We will work closely with North Cowichan's Communication team to develop a communication strategy as part of the engagement plan that effectively uses visual media. We may wish to create a short, fun video (optional extra) to help engage the broadest set of community members on this project. We will determine timing for the brand launch and other key dates of community outreach. The plan will identify key	March 16, 2020

	Activity	Description	Week of
		stakeholders, articulate objectives, integrate with the project timeline, outline engagement methods, tools and levels of engagement, and describe commitments for reporting.	
2.6	Revise and Finalize the Engagement Plan	The engagement plan will be presented for review to the Project Manager. We will make revisions and finalize the plan.	March 30, 2020
2.7	Create POLICY GAP ANALYSIS REPORT Framework	The report will refine the focus regarding: proposed policy changes to the OCP document, needed internal resources, and refinement to the work plan. The MODUS team will undertake a thorough background review of all planning policies and strategies. Diamond Head and Thrive Consulting will review all existing policy and strategic plans related to the natural environment and climate change initiatives. Sustainability Ventures and City Squared will review economic plans including the progress towards the eight key factors outlined in the 2010 Economic Development workplan. This includes gathering and analyzing key data indicators to track progress in the areas identified in the previous OCP. This could include: numbers of business licenses issued each year, rate of employment, types of employment by industry, value of non-residential building permits issued (or total square footage by use). Other indicators not mentioned in the OCP could include: income levels, major employers in the District, land values by land use category, and housing starts by unit type. The team will compile findings and general recommendations for initiatives to be considered through the OCP planning process. We will draft a framework and questions for engagement.	April 6, 2020
2.8	Consult on Policy Gap Analysis with OCP Advisory Group and Community Ambassadors	We will host a workshop with the Advisory Group and Ambassadors to discuss policy gaps and understand community issues.	April 13, 2020

	Activity	Description	Week of
2.9	Engage Public Online	As per the engagement plan we will engage with the public online about community issues.	April 20, 2020
2.10	Draft the Policy Gap Analysis Report	We will synthesis background documents and engagement outcomes to create a Council-presentable draft to the Project Manager at least two weeks prior to the Steering Committee workshop	April 27, 2020
2.11	Develop and conduct and OCP steering committee workshop*	In collaboration with the Project Manager we will develop and conduct a workshop on this topic.	May 4, 2020
2.12	Report Revisions	Based on feedback from the OCP Steering Committee and direction from the project manager, we will make revisions to the report for further review and acceptance by the Project Manager.	May 11, 2020
2.13	Conduct Council Workshop*	We will present our findings to Council and solicit their input.	May 18, 2020
2.14	Revise and Finalize Policy Gap Analysis Report	We will revise the Gap Analysis and forward to the Project Manager/ Director for review and acceptance.	May 25, 2020
2.15	Create VISION AND GOALS Framework	The purpose of this stage is to confirm principles, assets and challenges, and draft a vision statement, goals and themes. In the framework we will outline the key topics and objectives for the engagement	June 1, 2020
2.16	Consult on Vision and Goals with OCP Advisory Group and Community Ambassadors	We will convene group meetings with the OCP Advisory Group/ Community Ambassador teams both before and after events to build capacity with them and debrief on the events. We will train them to host events.	June 8, 2020
2.17	Support staff to create background briefs	If needed, MODUS will support staff to create the brief background papers.	June 15, 2020

	Activity	Description	Week of
2.18	Engage with Public on Vision and Goals	As per the engagement plan, we will consult with the public combining in-person and digital engagement techniques and tools, drawing input from a range of community members and locations. Promoted by Ambassadors and the Advisory Group, supported by brief background papers and strong communications and branding, MODUS will help facilitate engagement activities that seek to understand key issues, priorities, goals and values. An Ideas Fair may be a good tool at this stage in the process.	June 22, 2020
2.19	Draft the Report	We will draft a report summarizing feedback on the Vision and Goals. This will be a Council-presentable draft forwarded to the Project Manager two weeks before the Steering Committee. The report will confirm principles, assets and challenges, establish a vision statement, goals and principles and identify critical themes to consider.	June 29, 2020
2.20	Develop and conduct an OCP Steering Committee Workshop	In collaboration with the Project Manager we will conduct a workshop with the Steering Committee	July 6, 2020
2.21	Revise Report	Based on feedback from the Steering Committee and direction from the project manager, we will revise the Gap Analysis and forward to the Project Manager/ Director for review.	July 13, 2020
2.22	Conduct Council Workshop	We will present our findings to Council and solicit their input.	July 20, 2020
2.23	Revise and Finalize Vision and Goals Report	We will incorporate any revisions and forward to the Project Manager/ Director for review and acceptance.	July 27, 2020
2.24	Create COMMUNITY CHARACTER AND VALUES Framework	Through this process we will identify unique aspects that will differentiate overall North Cowichan character from the individual community character and start to inform community planning and policy development.	August 10, 2020
2.25	Create Maps for Local Areas	We will work with North Cowichan GIS staff to create maps for the engagement process and report.	August 10, 2020

	Activity	Description	Week of
2.26	Consult with Community Ambassador Teams	We will meet with the teams and involve them with the local community character engagement activities.	August 17, 2020
2.27	Engage community members	We will engage with members in each community in alignment with the engagement plan to develop a community-driven approach to mapping individual community character and values. This could include storytelling events, community mapping, photo documentation, bike tours and more. We will develop sketches illustrating community character, like the ones Cal Srigley created of Cowichan Bay for their Design Guide.	August 31, 2020
2.28	Create a profile of each community	We will create a profile nine communities that includes boundaries, characters and individual values.	September 14, 2020
2.29	Prepare Community Character and Values Report	We will prepare the report.	September 21, 2020
2.30	Revise and Finalize Community Character and Values Report	We will draft a report for review and acceptance by the Project Manager/ Director.	September 28, 2020

Deliverables

- Engagement Plan (including communications strategy)
- Policy Gap Analysis Report
- Vision and Goals Consultation Summary Report
- Community Character and Values Report (including community profiles)
- Video (if required/ separate pricing)

PHASE 3: POLICY OPTIONS AND PLAN DRAFTING

This phase focuses on creating the Official Community Plan document. Development of growth scenarios and policy direction will include options and selection of urban containment boundaries, land use designation, and growth targets, and development of final policies and maps. Policy alignment with the following plans (which are under development) is key: climate action and energy project, master transportation plan, flood modelling/ mapping, drinking water and water shed planning function and zoning bylaw rewrites.

	Activity	Description	Timing
3.1	PRELIMINARY POLICY AND GROWTH SCENARIO OPTIONS Framework	We will develop a framework to help guide the discussion on growth scenario options	October 5, 2020
3.2	Create maps	We will work with GIS staff to create maps to outline growth scenarios.	October 5, 2020
3.3	Consult with OCP Advisory Group and Community Ambassadors	We will host a workshop with the Advisory Group and Ambassadors on growth scenario options and discuss their involvement with the public engagement.	October 12, 2020
3.4	Engage the public	As per the engagement plan, we will engage the public about where growth should go in the District. We will provide scenario options for the entire District and hear about the impacts.	October 19, 2020
3.5	Prepare Draft Report	We will draft a Council-presentable report. We will identify policy direction and growth scenario options for each theme.	October 26, 2020
3.6	Develop and conduct an OCP Steering Committee Workshop	We will present the report to the Steering Committee.	November 2, 2020
3.7	Revise Report	Based on consolidated feedback from the project manager, we will revise report.	November 9, 2020
3.8	Council Workshop	We will develop and conduct a Council workshop on draft scenario options.	November 16, 2020
3.9	Revise and Finalize Growth Scenario Option report	We will revise the report based on Council feedback. We will forward the report for review and acceptance by the project manager/director.	November 23, 2020
3.10	Draft OCP POLICIES Framework	We will create a framework for this stage of the process. The themes may change based on the engagement but currently include: growth management, individual community character, climate adaptation, mitigation	November 30, 2020

	Activity	Description	Timing
		and resilience, the natural environment, employment and economic changes. Our team will help analyze the relationships between environmental characteristics, social values and demographic growth. Environmental/ climate change topics expected to be addressed include the management of the Forest Reserve, foreshore protection, watercourses and lakes and their riparian area protection, wildland interface concerns including wildfire and tree risk, green infrastructure and biodiversity planning as well as input on parks and recreation and the strengthening the integrity and protection of natural areas. The economic team experts will help to facilitate policy directions and commitments related to economic development objectives, based on the gap analysis. They will ensure that the policy directions include indicators to track land needs, economic opportunities and the density, forms, and a mix of uses to attract development.	
3.11	OCP Advisory Group Policy Development Workshops	MODUS will design and facilitate workshops for the OCP advisory group and community ambassadors to work through discrete pieces of draft OCP policy themes and provide useful feedback.	December 7, 2020
3.12	Draft OCP (policies)	Building on the workshop feedback, we will draft policies for each theme/chapter of the OCP.	December 14, 2020
3.13	Create maps	We will work with GIS staff to create maps to support these policies.	December 14, 2020
3.14	Create development tools framework	Review and make recommendations to improve Development Information Requirements and Development Permit Area Framework.	December 14, 2020
3.15	Draft Policy Review Period	Using an online platform and the large list of earlier participants and community contacts that we have maintained, the project will offer a comment period so that further feedback on draft policy can be obtained.	January 4, 2021

	Activity	Description	Timing
		Ambassadors and Advisory body members will be crucial to this effort as will your online portal.	
3.16	Revise OCP Policies	We revise policies based on feedback.	January 11, 2021
3.17	Council Workshop	We will develop and conduct a workshop on policies by themes and mapping.	January 18, 2021
3.18	Inter-government Referral	We will support North Cowichan staff to refer to other government bodies and to First Nations	January 25, 2021
3.19	Revise and finalize OCP Policies	We will revise polices and forward for review and acceptance by the project manager/ director.	February 8, 2021
3.20	FINAL DRAFT OCP DOCUMENT	This stage will include internal reviews and editing of policies.	Feb 15, 2021
3.21	Intergovernmental Consultation	We will support North Cowichan staff to conduct intergovernmental consultation.	February 22, 2021
3.22	Council Workshop	We will present a workshop to Council on the final draft OCP and implementation tools.	March 1, 2021
3.23	Presentation to the public	We will present the draft OCP Amendment Bylaw to public	March 8, 2021
	Development Permit Areas and Guidelines (separate pricing)	MODUS proposes to recommend revisions to the current Development Permit Area Guidelines to meet the updated OCP. We have experience writing Development Permit Guidelines for OCPs in Kamloops, Penticton, the Cowichan Valley, Cordova Bay, Kitimat, Terrace, and Fort St. John. MODUS to provide pricing.	TBD
	Economic Analysis	MODUS to provide pricing if required	TBD

Deliverables

- Preliminary Policy and Growth Scenario Report

Council Resolutions:

February 19, 2020	That Council direct staff to prepare a high-level report that (1) provides an inventory of North Cowichan's current environmental protection policies; (2) identifies related issues and opportunities; and (3) recommends a process for strengthening environmental protection policies as part of the rewrite of the Official Community Plan (OCP); and that potential focus areas include the prevention of unauthorized land clearing; maintenance of natural hydrological functions and erosion prevention; prevention of nutrient/pollutants getting into storm drains and natural water courses; noxious and invasive weeds; Garry oak ecosystem protection; wildlife habitat protection; urban forest enhancement; greenways protection/creation; and pesticide herbicide use
February 19, 2020	That Council direct staff to engage with the consultants to evaluate ways to continue the Forestry and Official Community Plan public engagement processes virtually or otherwise, and report back to Council.
May 6, 2020	That Council approve the interim digital engagement activities proposed and direct staff to proceed with public engagement on the Official Community Plan Update, subject to consultation and engagement with the Official Community Plan Advisory Committee and Ambassadors
October 21, 2020	That North Cowichan reinstate its Environmental Advisory Committee as an advisory body to serve at the will of Council and to work with staff and help Council 1) develop and integrate practical CAEP policies and programs through both the pending CAEP and OCP processes, and 2) to provide council with advise on other environmental issues, such as natural areas, watershed protection, air quality, climate adaptation, as directed by Council.
October 21, 2020	WHEREAS the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change has concluded that it is imperative that we achieve net zero emissions by 2050 and the BC provincial government's climate plan also has as a target the achieving of net zero by 2050; AND WHEREAS Council has been assured that further adjustments or refinements to the Climate Action and Energy Plan ("CAEP") project (and report) will not add significantly to our understanding of how to reduce our emissions but may rather delay the Official Community Plan ("OCP") process (where those CAEP-derived understandings will be translated into policy); AND WHEREAS going forward, it is the intention of staff to work with both Sustainability Solutions Group (SSG) and Modus to ensure that there is harmony or alignment between the CAEP derived understandings and the OCP policies, and to use the new CAEP modelling tool to ensure that OCP policies, including growth management scenarios, will result in the meeting of our emissions reductions target; NOW THEREFORE Council directs, subject to the completion of the CAEP, that the 2050 emissions reductions target of 80% be changed to a target of achieving net zero by 2050, and that this be reflected in the development of policy in the OCP
November 18, 2020	That the Somenos Marsh Wildlife Society presentation be referred to the Official Community Plan consultant, Modus, for their consideration
November 18, 2020	Whereas it is Council's intention to develop a biodiversity protection strategy in 2021;

	And Whereas biodiversity protection strategies developed in some neighbouring communities have land use components such as preservation of habitat areas and ensuring connectivity between habitat areas; Now therefore be it resolved that Council directs that our planning staff communicate to the OCP consultants (Modus) that protection of our rare ecosystems and the species that inhabit them is a priority of Council and that this should be a strong consideration in the formulation of our OCP's land use policy	
February 2, 2021	That Consent Agenda Item 1.13 be referred to Planning staff and the OCP consultant [MODUS] for their consideration	
February 22, 2021	That Council direct staff to use the Environmental Policy and Regulation Review report as a resource and guide for developing and updating environmental policy in the new OCP and other upcoming projects such as the Zoning Bylaw and Subdivision Bylaw reviews	
February 22, 2021	That Council refer the report to the Environmental Advisory Committee, Official Community Plan Advisory Group and Modus, on the understanding that there will be no delays to the OCP process	
March 21, 2021	That Council seek the advice and recommendations from the following key stakeholders in relation to the land use policy development to be included in the revised Official Community Plan for North Cowichan, and ask that they provide their opinions on what they believe is necessary to achieve Council's goals of restoration and regeneration of the municipality's lakes, streams, estuaries and rivers, and of protecting biodiversity:•Cowichan Land Trust•Somenos Marsh Wildlife Society•Cowichan Watershed Board•Quamichan Watershed Stewardship Society•Cowichan Estuary Restoration & Conservation Association	

MUNICIPALITY OF NORTH Cowichan

Report

Date	November 10, 2020	File: 6480-30 2019.01 Prospero No: SPP00040
To	Committee of the Whole	
From	Chris Hutton, Community Planning Coordinator	Endorsed:
Subject	Offical Community Plan (OCP) Project Status Update	

Purpose

To present an OCP Project status update and respond to questions regarding the changing timelines of the deliverables.

Background

Since Council endorsed the OCP Project Plan and timeline in April 2019, the project has overcome a number of unforeseen risks to its timelines. As a result, it is behind schedule by approximately two months. Procurement was delayed three months due to a procurement backlog and the 2019 holiday break. The COVID-19 pandemic and necessary 60-day pause on engagement resulted in a delay of the gap analysis deliverable from March to June and a delay of the engagement plan deliverable from May to June.

The "Digital Engagement Plan also impacted the budget for this deliverable." Increases in the scope of the vision and priorities survey and high response rate led to a rise in the cost of compiling the survey data. At this point, the project is approximately $9,000 over budget. Additional funding to see the project through to completion will be discussed with Council during the 2021 budget review.

Discussion

Staff have worked with the project consultants (MODUS) to identify efficiencies in the timeline and project budget to keep the project as on schedule as possible while continuing to ensure the OCP project's objectives are achieved:

Thematic Objectives:

- Revising our Approach to Growth Management
- Respect Individual Community Character
- Incorporate Climate Adaptation, Mitigation, and Resilience
- Strengthen Natural Environment
- Consider Employment and Economic Changes

Procedural Objectives:

- Vetted Deliverables and Workshops
- Meaningful Public Consultation
- Project Alignment
- Creating an Accessible Plain Language Plan and Planning Process
- Intergovernmental Consultation
- First Nations Engagement

The status of other projects that have interdependencies with the OCP project include:

- *Remodelling of current and forecast emissions has been completed*. Council directed Staff to use a net-zero target for the OCP project, which is timely going into Phase III, where growth scenarios will be discussed. Staff, MODUS, and CAEP consultants, SSG, will meet before the end of the year to determine how the next phase of the OCP Project can utilize the CAEP update findings and tools to inform plan development. Funding for climate impact modeling of draft OCP land use scenarios will be proposed in the 2021 budget.
- *The Master Transportation Plan (MTP) has been awarded to Watt Consulting*. Staff will be working with MODUS and Watt over the coming weeks to coordinate the two projects.
- *The CVRD-led Regional Housing Needs Assessment has produced a background report*. This report includes valuable data on housing needs in the region and North Cowichan. This regional project is also being undertaken by MODUS and will assist with OCP housing policy development in the new year. These projects continue to be well aligned as we advance.

A timeline illustrating the updated OCP project schedule, including the deliverables for each phase is attached. The revised timeline reflects a delay of approximately two months. However, this delay has helped to align the project schedule with other interdependent municipal and regional initiatives as noted above. The project schedules' alignment is anticipated to improve deliverables and achieve more meaningful public engagement during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Coming Up:

The next deliverable in the OCP Project process is Community Character Mapping. This step in the OCP is critical to meeting Council's direction to update the OCP to address local area planning better. Recognizing the unique communities in the Municipality and their individual characters will be invaluable to:

- differentiate individual community character from overall North Cowichan character;
- inform district-wide community planning such as OCP growth scenarios and policy statements;
- inform community-level policy, including providing local detail to development permit areas and guidelines, as well as policy rationale for future local area development/revitalization planning; and,
- support and inform other future community planning initiatives (i.e. heritage, agricultural, environmental planning).

The community profiles will acknowledge the existing Local Area Plans and other key local community planning information and incorporate community-level survey data. This engagement step focuses on identifying features and assets within the natural and built environments valued by residents and contributes to North Cowichan's communities' character and identity.

Recommendation

That Council accepts the Offical Community Plan (OCP) Project Status Update report.

Attachment: OCP anticipated timeline.

ATTACHMENT 1

Phase I - Start-up
(Apr. 2019-Feb. 2020)

- Project Initiation (Apr.-May)
- Engagement Strategy (May-Jul)
- Backgrounder (Oct.)
- Procurement (Oct-Feb.)

Phase II – Community Vision + Local Character Mapping
(Feb. 2020 – Feb. 2021)

- Engagement Plan (Mar-June)
- Gap Analysis (Mar.-Jun.)
- Vision + Goals (Jul-Nov)
- Character Mapping (Oct-Jan)

Phase III – Policy + Plan Draft
(Jan. 2021 – Jul. 2021)

- Growth Scenarios (Dec.-Mar.)
- Draft OCP Policies (Mar-Jun.)
- Finalize Draft (Jun.-Jul.)

Phase IV – Plan Adoption
(Aug. 2021 – Sep. 2021)

- 1st+2nd Reading(Aug)
- Public Hearing + 3rd, Adopt (Sept)

Report

MUNICIPALITY OF NORTH Cowichan

Date	April 7, 2021	File:	
To	Council		
From	Shaun Mason, Municipal Forester	Endorsed:	
Subject	FireSmart Economic Recovery Fund Grant		

Purpose

To consider partnering with the Cowichan Valley Regional District (CVRD) on their FireSmart Economic Recovery Fund Program application under the Community Resiliency Investment (CRI) program.

Background

The CRI program is a provincial program managed by The Union of BC Municipalities (UBCM) with the goal of reducing the risk and impact of wildfire to communities in BC through community funding, supports and priority fuel management activities. In January 2021, CRI announced a new funding stream through the FireSmart Economic Recovery Fund. This is a separate funding source from the recent North Cowichan FireSmart grant announcement made in regards to developing treatment prescriptions and the creation of Wildfire Development Permit areas.

The intent of the FireSmart Economic Recovery Fund is to support immediate job creation in order to build local wildfire resiliency and assist communities in recovering from the economic impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic. To qualify for funding, applicants must demonstrate the extent to which proposed project(s) will support immediate job creation in order to build local wildfire resiliency and assist communities in recovering from the economic impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic.

The Ministry of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations and Rural Development has provided $10 million for this funding stream with each applicant able to apply for a maximum of $150,000. The proposed application with the three regional partners is seeking the maximum combined funding permitted of $450,000.

An application was written and submitted by CVRD staff with input from North Cowichan and Cowichan Tribes staff. A report was written by CVRD staff seeking support to apply for the funding which was endorsed by the CVRD's Community Services Committee on March 10, 2021, recommending that the CVRD Board endorse the submission of the UBCM 2021 FireSmart Economic Recovery Fund application. On March 24, 2021, the CVRD Board passed a resolution approving the submission of the grant application.

The application was due March 19, 2021 but an extension was granted until March 26, 2021 to allow for responses to program questions prior to submitting an application. Certified resolutions are required by all parties as part of the application, which are permitted to be submitted after the application submission deadline.

Discussion

Wildfires do not recognize regional or community boundaries and building wildfire resiliency within the broader community is a common goal we share with our regional neighbors. A collaborative regional strategy approach ensures that FireSmart principles and information is shared broadly in our neighboring communities in a consistent way. This strengthens regional wildfire preparedness, increases public FireSmart awareness and supports increased wildfire resiliency within the communities.

The regional approach also helps with building internal knowledge and capacity for all parties, with the goal to leverage future joint grant funding. The work will be directed by internal staff representatives and staff from the CVRD and Cowichan Tribes to ensure work performed aligns with the goals and objectives as per the grant funding requirements.

The proposal in the grant application is for the CVRD to hire two temporary positions that will conduct and administer various FireSmart activities throughout the regions. The proposal also includes hiring trained crew from Cowichan Tribes to conduct minor mitigation activities based on the FireSmart treatment assessments. Other eligible activities considered for the project include public engagement and communication, providing public with direct technical expertise, hosting workshops/information sessions, conducting FireSmart assessments and completing minor mitigation projects for residential areas, farms and ranches, community assets and critical infrastructure.

Options

Option 1: THAT Council authorize the Cowichan Valley Regional District to apply for, receive, and manage the UBCM 2021 FireSmart Economic Recovery Fund grant funding up to $150,000 on behalf of The District of North Cowichan;

AND THAT Council directs staff, should grant funding be received, to work on the FireSmart Economic Recovery Fund Project with the Cowichan Valley Regional District and Cowichan Tribes as described in the April 7, 2021 report from the Municipal Forester.

Option 2: No motion of Council required.

Implications

Option 1

Personnel: The oversite of the project will be done collaboratively with representatives from CVRD and Cowichan Tribes but staff time will be required to help coordinate, implement, advertise, oversee and promote the project. Increased staff time would be required in the early stages as the program is developed but would decrease as the temporary FireSmart Coordinator(s) were hired and oriented.

	Financial: There are no direct financial impacts to North Cowichan. Should only partial funding be received for the project, adjustments will be made accordingly to ensure there are no direct financial impacts to North Cowichan. Should no funding be received, North Cowichan will not proceed with the regional project but will continue to work with CVRD and Cowichan Tribes to explore future opportunities. Supports the Council Strategic Plan priority of working collaboratively with regional government partners, ensuring a strong relationship with the Cowichan Valley Regional District (CVRD).
Option 2	Does not support the Council Strategic Plan priority of working collaboratively with regional government partners, ensuring a strong relationship with the Cowichan Valley Regional District (CVRD).

Recommendation

THAT Council authorize the Cowichan Valley Regional District to apply for, receive, and manage the UBCM 2021 FireSmart Economic Recovery Fund grant funding up to $150,000 on behalf of The District of North Cowichan;

AND THAT Council directs staff, should grant funding be received, to work on the FireSmart Economic Recovery Fund Project with the Cowichan Valley Regional District and Cowichan Tribes as described in the April 7, 2021 report from the Municipal Forester.

Attachment(s): 2021 FireSmart Economic Recovery Fund Program & Application Guide

Community Resiliency Investment Program

2021 FireSmart Economic Recovery Fund

Program & Application Guide

1. Introduction

The Community Resiliency Investment (CRI) program was announced by the provincial government in 2018 and is intended to reduce the risk of wildfires and mitigate their impacts on BC communities. As of January 2021, CRI includes three streams:

Stream 1: FireSmart Community Funding & Supports, administered by the Union of BC Municipalities (UBCM).

Stream 2: Crown Land Wildfire Risk Reduction, administered by the Ministry of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations & Rural Development.

Stream 3: FireSmart Economic Recovery Fund, administered by UBCM.

FireSmart Economic Recovery Fund

The intent of the FireSmart Economic Recovery Fund is to support immediate job creation in order to build local wildfire resiliency and assist communities in recovering from the economic impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic. The Ministry of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations and Rural Development has provided $10 million for this funding stream.

2. Eligible Applicants

Eligible applicants are:

- Local governments (municipalities or regional districts) in BC
- First Nations (bands, Treaty First Nations and Indigenous National Governments with authority for lands and resources) in BC
- Legally incorporated society-run fire departments in BC that are in good standing
- Improvement Districts that operate a fire protection service in BC

Eligible applicants can submit one application per intake, including regional applications or participation as a partnering applicant in a regional application.

3. Grant Maximum

The FireSmart Economic Recovery Fund can contribute a maximum of 100% of the cost of eligible activities to a maximum of $150,000.

As noted in Section 4, the maximum funding for regional projects is $500,000.

In order to ensure transparency and accountability in the expenditure of public funds, all other financial contributions for eligible portions of the project must be declared and, depending on the total value, may decrease the value of the grant. This includes any other grant funding and any revenue (e.g. sale of forest products) that is generated from activities that are funded by the FireSmart Economic Recovery Fund.

4. Eligible Projects

To qualify for funding, applicants must demonstrate the extent to which proposed project(s) will support immediate job creation in order to build local wildfire resiliency and assist communities in recovering from the economic impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Regional Projects

Funding requests from two or more eligible applicants for regional projects may be submitted as a single application for eligible, collaborative projects. In this case, the maximum funding available would be based on the number of eligible applicants included in the application. It is expected that regional projects will demonstrate cost-efficiencies in the total grant request.

The primary applicant submitting the application for a regional project is required to submit a resolution or motion as outlined in Section 7 of this guide. Each partnering applicant is required to submit a resolution or motion that clearly states their approval for the primary applicant to apply for, receive, and manage the grant funding on their behalf.

The total funding request for regional projects cannot exceed $500,000.

5. Requirements for Funding

To qualify for funding, projects must:

- For in-person activities, meetings or events, meet physical distancing and other public health guidance in relation to COVID-19.
- Comply with all applicable privacy legislation under the *Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act* in relation to the collection, use, or disclosure of personal information while conducting funded activities. Personal information is any recorded information about an identifiable individual other than their business contact information. This includes information that can be used to identify an individual through association or inference.
- Meet all WorkSafe BC requirements and regulations, be completed by a qualified professional that is accredited by their professional association, and/or a trained and certified contractor.
- Not include activities that have been funded under the FireSmart Community Funding & Supports program, or other funding programs.
- Be a new project (retroactive funding is not available).
- Be capable of completion by the applicant within one year from the date of grant approval.

Applicants are encouraged to engage with a BC Wildfire Service Wildfire Prevention Officer or First Nations' Emergency Services Society Fuel Management Specialist to discuss proposed FireSmart and fuel management activities and opportunities for integration of planning and implementing fuel management activities on provincial Crown lands.

6. Eligible & Ineligible Costs & Activities

Eligible Costs & Activities

Eligible costs are direct costs that are approved by the Evaluation Committee, properly and reasonably incurred, and paid by the applicant to carry out eligible activities. Eligible costs can only be incurred from the date of application submission until the final report is submitted.

Table 1 identifies the activities that are eligible for funding. Eligible activities must be cost-effective.

Please note that all FireSmart Home Ignition Zone Assessments must be conducted by a qualified Local FireSmart Representative (LFR) or Wildfire Mitigation Specialist (WMS).

Table 1: Activities Eligible for Funding
1. JOB CREATION FOR FIRESMART PROJECTS & FUEL MANAGEMENT DEMONSTRATION *To be eligible for funding, activities in this category must result in the creation of new employment (i.e. new position(s) or increased hours for an existing part-time position(s)) and lead to one or more of the following outcomes.*

A. FireSmart projects for residential areas:
• Completion of FireSmart Home Ignition Zone Assessment Score Card by a qualified LFR or WMS
• Completion of recommended mitigation activities identified in the score card, limited to labour costs required to complete activities outlined in Table 2 (see Appendix 2) for:
  ○ Residential homes and properties owned by seniors (65 years of age or older), elders, people with limited mobility or vulnerable populations who cannot undertake mitigation activities themselves
  ○ Band owned housing occupied by elders, people with limited mobility or vulnerable populations and who cannot undertake mitigation activities themselves
• Completion of a secondary FireSmart Home Ignition Zone Assessment Score Card after mitigation work is completed (required)

B. FireSmart projects for farms and ranches • Completion of Farm/Ranch Wildfire Plan Workbook (it is recommended that this be completed with a qualified LFR, but not required) • Completion of recommended mitigation activities identified in the workbook, limited to labour costs required to complete activities outlined in Table 2 (see Appendix 2) for: ○ Farms or ranches owned by seniors (65 years of age or older), elders, people with limited mobility, or vulnerable populations who cannot undertake mitigation activities themselves
C. FireSmart projects for community assets: *The maximum funding request for building materials and labour is $50,000 per eligible structure* • Completion of FireSmart Home Ignition Zone Assessment Score Card or FireSmart Critical Infrastructure Assessment by a qualified LFR or WMS • Completion of recommended mitigation activities identified in the assessment, limited to labour and material costs required to complete activities outlined in Table 3 (see Appendix 3) for: ○ Buildings or properties owned by legally incorporated society-run fire departments, local non-profit groups or community associations that are currently designated as critical to support effective emergency response to a wildfire event. This includes structures designated as Emergency Operations Centres or Emergency Support Services facilities (i.e. reception centres, group lodging locations for evacuees). • Completion of a secondary FireSmart Home Ignition Zone Assessment Score Card or FireSmart Critical Infrastructure Assessment after mitigation work is completed (required)

D. FireSmart projects for critical infrastructure:

The maximum funding request for building materials and labour is $50,000 per eligible structure.

- Completion of FireSmart Critical Infrastructure Assessment by a qualified LFR or WMS.
- Completion of recommended mitigation activities identified in the assessment, limited to labour and material costs required to complete activities outlined in Table 3 (see Appendix 3) for:
  - First Nations owned buildings or publicly owned buildings that are currently designated as critical to support effective emergency response to a wildfire event. This includes structures designated as Emergency Operations Centres or Emergency Support Services facilities (i.e. reception centres, group lodging locations for evacuees), water pump stations, communications towers, and electrical generating stations, but does not include all critical infrastructure identified through the Local Authority Emergency Plan.
- Completion of a secondary FireSmart Critical Infrastructure Assessment after mitigation work is completed (required).

E. Fuel management demonstration projects

All fuel management demonstration projects are required to have a completed prescription, include educational signage and meet the requirements of funding identified in Appendix 4.

- Completion of Fuel management prescriptions consistent with BC Wildfire Service 2020 Fuel Management Prescription Guidance Document
- Completion of recommended fuel management activities, limited to:
  - Local government land, First Nations land or Provincial Crown land
  - Locations that are visible and accessible to community members
  - Projects with rationale for project location (i.e. number of visitors)
  - Parcels no more than 5 ha

2. JOB CREATION FOR SUSTAINED WILDFIRE RESILIENCY

To be eligible for funding, activities in this category must result in the creation of new employment (i.e. new position(s) or increased hours for an existing part-time position(s)) and lead to the development of local, sustained capacity for wildfire resiliency.

- FireSmart Program Coordinator: coordinate home assessments, establish FireSmart educational outreach program, coordinate FireSmart projects, oversee reporting and information sharing, etc.
- Community FireSmart Resiliency Committee Coordinator: administration of CFRC meetings, minutes and agendas, determining topics, setting meetings and furthering action items for the Committee, sharing information with the BC FireSmart Committee, etc.
- Qualified Local FireSmart Representative: conducting Home Ignition Zone Assessments, conducting Critical Infrastructure Assessments, facilitating Farm and Ranch Workbook preparation, delivering champion workshops, assisting neighbourhoods in working towards FireSmart Canada Neighbourhood Recognition, etc.
- Summer, co-op students or youth: FireSmart education projects (door knocking, pamphlets, events, etc.)
- Neighbourhood champions undertaking activities required for FireSmart Canada Neighbourhood Recognition: coordinating FireSmart activities, delivering workshops and

education presentations, completing and submitting the FireSmart Canada Neighbourhood Recognition Program application
3. SKILLS DEVELOPMENT THAT LEADS TO EMPLOYMENT *To be eligible for funding, activities in this category must result in the creation of new employment (i.e. new position(s) or increased hours for an existing part-time position(s)) as identified above by providing skills development and training that leads immediate employment.*

• Delivery of training including instructor costs, travel, tuition and course fees
• LFR training in order to undertake FireSmart assessments for FireSmart projects
• Training, including training specific to youth, to support FireSmart projects and fuel management demonstration projects:
  ○ Basic first aid (Level 1 with transportation endorsement if required)
  ○ Basic Power Saw Safety
  ○ Danger Tree Assessment Certification
  ○ Project Management for Operational Project implementation, monitoring and reporting.
  ○ Basic FireSmart Landscaping (i.e. how to plant, identify plants, maintain, etc.)
  ○ Archeological site identification

The following expenditures are also eligible provided that they relate directly to the eligible activities identified in Table 1:

- Incremental applicant staff and administration costs (i.e. creating a new position or adding new responsibilities to an existing position).
- Consultant costs
- Purchasing FireSmart supplies and equipment required for FireSmart projects or fuel management demonstration projects (hand saws, brush saws, loppers, forestry measuring tapes to gauge zone distance, gloves, ladders, personal protective equipment, sanitation supplies, basic first aid supplies, etc.). Note this is limited to no more than $3,000 of the total grant request.
- Public information costs

Ineligible Costs & Activities

Any activity that is not outlined above or is not directly connected to activities approved in the application by the Evaluation Committee is not eligible for grant funding. This includes:

- Purchase of chainsaws, structural protection equipment, major capital items, major fire apparatus or vehicles
- Routine or ongoing operating costs (i.e. heating and lighting; security; software subscriptions or other subscription fees)
- Use of a fire department during an emergency
- Training offered through the Provincial Emergency Management Training Program
- Major capital improvements or renovations to existing facilities and/or construction of new, permanent facilities, outside of FireSmart projects identified in Table 1
- Costs related to developing or submitting the application package

7. Application Requirements & Process

Application Deadline

The application deadline is **March 19, 2021**. Applicants will be advised of the status of their application within 90 days of the application deadline.

Required Application Contents

All applicants are required to submit:

- Completed Application Form.
- Detailed budget for each component identified in the application. This must clearly identify the funding request, applicant contribution, and/or other grant funding.
- For FireSmart projects for community assets only: evidence that building is owned by a legally incorporated society-run fire department, local non-profit group, or community association.
- For fuel management demonstration projects only: PDF map and Google Earth compatible KML file, at appropriate scale, outlining the location, proposed treatments units, and if not phased, the signed and sealed prescription.
- For regional projects only: resolution or motion from each partnering applicant that clearly states their approval for the primary applicant to apply for, receive and manage the grant funding on their behalf.

Resolutions or motions from partnering applicants must include the language above

If the applicant is a local government, First Nation or improvement district, the following must also be submitted:

- Local government Council or Board resolution, Band Council resolution, Treaty First Nation resolution, or improvement district Trustee resolution, indicating support for the current proposed activities and willingness to provide overall grant management

If the applicant is a legally incorporated society-run fire department, they must also submit:

- Board of Directors motion indicating support for the current proposed activities and willingness to provide overall grant management
- Current Certificate of Good Standing

Submission of Applications

Applications should be submitted as Word or PDF files. If you choose to submit your application by e-mail, hard copies do not need to follow.

All applications should be submitted to:

Local Government Program Services, Union of BC Municipalities

E-mail: cri@ubcm.ca Mail: 525 Government Street, Victoria, BC, V8V 0A8

Review of Applications

UBCM will perform a preliminary review of applications to ensure the required application elements have been submitted and to ensure that basic eligibility criteria have been met. Only complete application packages will be reviewed.

Following this, the Evaluation Committee will assess and score all eligible applications. Higher application review scores will be given to projects that:

- Meet the intent of the FireSmart Economic Recovery Fund by clearly demonstrating:
  - Immediate job creation, including estimates of the per person days per project.
  - Increased and sustainable local wildfire resiliency.
  - Local recovery from the economic impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic.
- Demonstrate longer-term capacity building.
- Demonstrate rationale for proposed activities.
- Are outcomes-based, sustainable, and include performance measures.
- Include collaboration with one or more partners (e.g. community or resident organization, First Nation or Indigenous organization, other local governments, industry, or other levels of government).
- In cases where the total project cost exceeds the grant request, include in-kind or cash contributions to the project from the eligible applicant, community partners, or other grant funding.
- Demonstrate cost-effectiveness and be in general alignment with established CRI FireSmart cost benchmarks

Point values and weighting have been established within each of these scoring criteria. Only those applications that meet a minimum threshold point value will be considered for funding. The Evaluation Committee will consider the provincial and regional distribution of all proposed projects. Funding decisions will be made on a provincial priority basis.

All application materials will be shared with the Province of BC and the BC FireSmart Committee

8. Grant Management & Applicant Responsibilities

Grants are awarded to eligible applicants only and, as such, the applicant is responsible for completion of the project as approved and for meeting reporting requirements.

Applicants are also responsible for proper fiscal management, including maintaining acceptable accounting records for the project. UBCM reserves the right to audit these records.

Notice of Funding Decision

All applicants will receive written notice of funding decisions. Approved applicants will receive an Approval Agreement, which will include the terms and conditions of any grant that is awarded, and that is required to be signed and returned to UBCM.

Grants are paid at the completion of the project and only when the final report requirements have been met. However, to support economic recovery efforts, approved applicants may request an initial payment of no more than 25% of the approved grant after the Approval Agreement has been returned to UBCM.

Please note that in cases where revisions are required to an application, or an application has been approved in principle only, the applicant has 30 days from the date of the written notice of the status of the application to complete the application requirements. Applications that are not completed within 30 days may be closed.

Progress Payments

Grants under the FireSmart Economic Recovery Fund program are paid at the completion of the project and only when the final report requirements have been met.

To request a progress payment, approved applicants are required to submit:

- Description of activities completed to date
- Description of funds expended to date
- Written rationale for receiving a progress payment

Changes to Approved Projects

Approved grants are specific to the project as identified in the application, and grant funds are not transferable to other projects. Approval from the Evaluation Committee will be required for any significant variation from the approved project.

To propose changes to an approved project, approved applicants are required to submit:

- Revised application package, including updated, signed application form, updated budget and an updated resolution
- Written rationale for proposed changes to activities and/or expenditures

The revised application package will then be reviewed by the Evaluation Committee at the next scheduled meeting.

Applicants are responsible for any costs above the approved grant unless a revised application is submitted and approved prior to work being undertaken.

Extensions to Project End Date

All approved activities are required to be completed within one year of approval. Under exceptional circumstances, an extension beyond this date may be requested in writing and is subject to approval by the Evaluation Committee.

9. Interim Reporting & Final Report Requirements & Process

Applicants with phased fuel management demonstration projects are required to submit an interim report before fuel management treatments commence. Refer to Appendix 4 for requirements

All funded activities must be completed within one year of notification of funding approval and the final report is due within 30 days of project completion.

Applicants are required to submit an electronic copy of the complete final report, including the following:

- Completed Final Report Form
- Financial summary
- Copies of any training or capacity building materials that were produced with grant funding.
- Optional: photos and/or media directly related to the funded project

Submission of Final Reports

All final reports should be submitted to:

Local Government Program Services, Union of BC Municipalities

E-mail: cri@ubcm.ca Mail: 525 Government Street, Victoria, BC, V8V 0A8

All final report materials will be shared with the Province of BC and BC FireSmart Committee

10. Additional Information

For enquiries about the application process or general enquiries about the program, please contact:

Union of BC Municipalities
525 Government Street
Victoria, BC, V8V 0A8

E-mail: cri@ubcm.ca

Phone: (250) 356-2947

Appendix 1: Definitions

First Nations land: First Nation reserve land, land owned by a Treaty First Nation (as defined by the *Interpretation Act*) within treaty settlement lands, or land under the authority of an Indigenous National Government.

First Nations owned buildings: Buildings owned by a Treaty First Nation (as defined by the *Interpretation Act*) within treaty settlement lands or buildings owned by a First Nation band.

Local Government owned land: Land owned by a municipality or regional district.

Publicly owned buildings: Buildings owned by a local government, eligible improvement district, or public institution (such as health authority or school district).

Publicly, provincially, and First Nations owned critical infrastructure: Assets owned by the Provincial government, local government, public institution (such as health authority or school district), First Nation or Treaty First Nation that are either:

- Identified in a Local Authority Emergency Plan Hazard, Risk & Vulnerability Analysis and/or Critical Infrastructure assessment and/or
- Essential to the health, safety, security or economic wellbeing of the community and the effective functioning of government (such as fire halls, emergency operations centres, radio repeaters, etc.).

Vegetation management: The general goal of vegetation management is to reduce the potential wildfire intensity and ember exposure to people, infrastructure, structures, and other values through manipulation of both the natural and cultivated vegetation that is within or adjacent to a community.

Vegetation management can be accomplished through two different activities:

1. **Residential scale FireSmart landscaping**: The removal, reduction, or conversion of flammable plants (such as landscaping for residential properties, parks and open spaces) in order to create more fire-resistant areas in FireSmart Non-combustible Zone and Priority Zones 1, 2 and 3. Refer to the FireSmart Guide to Landscaping.
2. **Fuel management treatments**: The manipulation or reduction of living or dead forest and grassland fuels to reduce the rate of spread and head fire intensity, and enhance likelihood of successful suppression, generally outside of FireSmart Non-combustible Zone and Priority Zones 1, 2 and 3. See Appendix 3 for more information.

Vulnerable populations: groups and communities that are at a higher risk for poor health as a result of the barriers they experience to social, economic, political and environmental resources, as well as limitations due to illness or disability

Appendix 2: Eligible Activities for FireSmart Projects for Residential Areas and Farms and Ranches

All assessments of residential properties or homes are required to be completed on the FireSmart Home Ignition Zone Assessment Score Card. This is a short assessment and should not take more than 2 to 3 hours to complete.

A secondary FireSmart Home Ignition Zone Assessment Score Card is required to be completed for all residential properties or homes for which mitigation activities are undertaken.

All assessments of farms and ranches are required to be completed on the Farm/Ranch Wildfire Plan Workbook.

Table 2: Eligible Activities for FireSmart Projects for Residential Areas and Farms and Ranches (labour costs only)		
Home or Structure		
1	Roof Material Gutters Vents and Openings	• Install UL/ASTM fire-rated roofing (metal, clay, asphalt shingles) • Install non-combustible gutters and/or gutter covers • Remove roof surface tree needles, debris or overhanging branches • Install closed eaves and/or non-combustible fire-rated vents or vents with 3 mm screening
2	Building Exterior or Siding	• Install ignition resistant (fibre cement board or log) or non-combustible (stucco, metal, brick/stone) exterior siding material • Repair gaps, cracks or holes where embers could lodge or penetrate • Provide 15 cm non-combustible vertical ground-to-siding clearance
3	Windows & Doors	• Install tempered glass in all doors and windows • Replace single pane window glass with multi pane / thermal window glass • Repair gaps in doors / garage doors where embers could accumulate or penetrate
4	Balcony, deck, porch	• Install non-combustible or fire-rated, solid (no gaps or cracks) deck surface and support construction • Close up open deck structures or remove all combustibles below deck
Yard / Non-Combustible Zone (0 to 1.5 metres from Home)		
5	1.5 metres from furthest extent of home	• Replace combustible surfaces with non-combustible surfaces • Remove combustible debris, materials, fences or plants
Yard / Zone 1 (1.5 to 10 metres from Home)		
6	Adjacent Combustibles	• Move woodpiles, building materials and all other combustibles into Zone 2 or enclose in an outbuilding that meets FireSmart guidelines
7	Outbuildings not meeting FireSmart guidelines	• Relocate outbuildings not meeting FireSmart guidelines more than 10 metres from home or upgrade outbuildings to meet FireSmart guidelines
8	Trees	• Replace (with deciduous) or remove coniferous (evergreen) species

9	Surface vegetation and combustible materials	• Cut and maintain grass to less than 10 cm or shorter • Replace flammable - continuous or tall growing plants with low flammability, low growing, discontinuous plants • Remove branches, logs and needles, leaves and debris accumulations
Yard / Zone 2 (10 to 30 metres from Home) and Zone 3 (30 to 100 metres from Home) *Note: Zone 3 should not be addressed until the building, Non-Combustible Zone, Zone 1 and Zone 2 have **first** been addressed. Consider seeking the guidance of a forest professional with wildland fire knowledge on appropriate management options for Zone 3.*		
10	Trees	• Thin coniferous trees or replace with deciduous tree species • Remove conifer tree branches within 2 metres of the ground
11	Surface Vegetation	• Reduce surface vegetation – long grass and flammable shrubs • Reduce accumulations of branches, logs and debris

Appendix 3: Eligible Activities FireSmart Projects for Community Assets and Critical Infrastructure

All assessments for community assets or critical infrastructure are required to be completed on the FireSmart Home Ignition Zone Assessment Score Card or FireSmart Critical Infrastructure Assessment Form. This is a relatively short assessment and should not take more than 4 to 8 hours.

A secondary FireSmart Home Ignition Zone Assessment Score Card or FireSmart Critical Infrastructure Assessment Form is required to be completed for all community assets or critical infrastructure for which mitigation activities are undertaken.

Table 3: Eligible Activities FireSmart Projects for Community Assets and Critical Infrastructure		
Community Asset or Critical Building		
1	Roof material and construction	• Install class A UL/ASTM fire rated roof covering (e.g. Metal, rated hot lay, clay tile or asphalt shingles) • Remove unrated roof covering (including wood shakes and wood shingle roofs)
2	Roof covering	• Ensure there are no gaps, openings that expose combustible building components, or enclosed spaces where embers could accumulate, lodge, or penetrate
3	Gutters (combustible or non- combustible)	• Ensure there are non-combustible gutters, no exposed combustible fascia/roof covering above gutters (metal or aluminum), or no gutters • Remove combustible (plastic, vinyl, wood) and/or exposed combustible fascia/roof covering above gutter
4	Cleanliness of roof and gutters	• Remove all needles, leaves, or other combustible materials
5	Eaves	• Ensure all eaves are closed or no eaves/no gaps or holes/no unprotected areas to attic /interior of building, vents with 3 mm (1/8”) non- combustible screening, operational louvres and flaps/ASTM ember resistant rated vents.
6	HVAC/active ventilation systems	• Ensure all HVAC/active ventilation system with 24 hour onsite operator, or remote shut-down capability
7	Exterior siding	• Install ignition resistant (cement fibre board, log) or non-combustible (stucco, metals, concrete, brick/stone)
		• Ensure there are no gaps or cracks, missing siding, or holes
8	Walls	• Ensure there is no less than 15 centimetres non-combustible vertical ground-to-siding surface
9	Fire resistant windows or doors (including large doors/garage doors)	• Install tempered glass in all doors and windows and treated Non-combustible Zone and Priority Zone 1; no gaps in ANY doors, OR no windows
10	Underside of the balcony, deck, porch,	• Ensure balcony, deck, porch, or other building extensions/open foundations are sheathed in with fire resistant/non-combustible

	other building extensions or open foundation	materials, or non-combustible siding, no gaps or cracks, OR open heavy timber, non-combustible or fire-rated construction OR non-combustible surface and no combustible debris under deck/extension AND treated Non-combustible Zone, Priority Zone 1 and Priority Zone 2 and slope set-back (if applicable)
11	Building set back from the edge of a slope	• Ensure the building is located on flat ground that extends to the full distance of Priority Zone 2
Critical Structures – Utility Poles, Communications Towers, Bridges, Pipeline Valve Stations		
1	Valve station/substation/ Propane Tanks	• Ensure a non-combustible surface is continuous under all combustible infrastructure
2	Utility line poles or critical component (weather stations, antennae masts, cellular towers)	• Ensure poles/ support structures are constructed of non-combustible material (metal or concrete)
		• Ensure non-combustible or combustible poles or support structures are free of petroleum/ accelerant-based coatings, cracks and gaps where embers may accumulate, lodge, or penetrate and non-combustible surface is continuous under all combustible infrastructure
3	Critical component	• Ensure critical components are not constructed of materials that are susceptible to damage from significant radiant or convective heat fluxes OR Critical components are constructed of materials that are susceptible to damage from significant radiant or convective heat fluxes and Non-combustible Zone and/or Priority Zone 1 and/or Priority Zone 2 are treated.
		• Ensure critical components are not constructed of materials that are susceptible to damage from embers or OR Critical components are constructed of materials that are susceptible to damage from embers but are free any gaps, holes or areas where embers could accumulate, lodge, or penetrate.
4	Bridge	• Ensure structure is constructed of non-combustible material (metal or concrete)
		• Ensure combustible structure is free of cracks and gaps where embers may lodge
Non-Combustible Zone (0 to 1.5 metres)		
1	1.5 metres from furthest extent of building or critical structure (includes overhangs, extensions and decks)	• Create non-combustible surface, no combustible debris, materials, fences or plants present
Zone 1 (1.5 to 10 metres)		
1	Where flammable substances, or other combustible materials are stored (Vehicles, flammable liquids/	• Make sure there is more than 10 metres from the structure, or in an approved and ember resistant storage container

	gases construction materials, debris etc.)	
2	Where unmitigated non-critical outbuildings are located (buildings that are not-mitigated to the same standards as the primary building or critical structure)	• Make sure they are more than 15 metres from primary structure
3	Type of forest that grows within 10 metres of the building, outbuilding or critical structures	• Ensure no trees or healthy deciduous (i.e. poplar, aspen, birch)
4	Surface vegetation and combustible materials that are within 10 metres of the building, outbuildings or critical structures	• Ensure no vegetation; Well maintained lawn (15 centimetres; 6 inches or shorter); low flammability; low growing discontinuous plants with treated Non-combustible Zone (0-1.5 metres)
Zone 2 (10 to 30 metres)		
1	Type of forest that grows within 10-30 metres of the building, outbuilding or critical structures	• Ensure no trees or healthy deciduous (i.e. poplar, aspen, birch)
2	Surface vegetation and combustible materials that are within 10-30 metres of the building, outbuildings or critical structures	• Ensure none within 10 - 30 metres
3	Low tree branches within 2 metres of the ground	• Remove all within 10 – 30 metres

Appendix 4 – Funding Requirements for Fuel Management Demonstration Projects

Fuel Management Demonstration Projects

Fuel Management Demonstration Projects are small-scale projects in areas that are designed to:

- Demonstrate fuel management treatments and increase public awareness of fuel management
- Test methodologies and equipment prior to implementing large-scale operational fuel treatment projects
- Explore the economic and operational viability of different fuel treatment methodologies

A completed prescription is required for all demonstration projects, including all maps.

Prescriptions

A Fuel Management Demonstration Project Prescription is a document that identifies the objectives and strategies to lower the wildfire hazard in an identified area. Prescriptions ensure that proposed treatments include clearly defined objectives for fuel management that will result in a measurable reduction in the wildfire risk to a value while meeting all legislated and non-statutory requirements. Updating prescriptions for maintenance treatments on previous demonstration projects is also eligible for funding.

Prescriptions that are part of phased projects (discussed below) or that have been funded outside of the CRI or SWPI program streams are required to undergo a technical review by the BCWS.

Maintenance treatments (generally for areas that have had fuel management demonstration projects in the last 5 to 15 years) are eligible for funding.

Eligible Fuel Management Demonstration Project Costs & Activities:

- Development of prescription
- Pre-treatment activities: activities required to obtain authorizations, danger tree assessments, notification to First Nations and stakeholders, and public engagement activities
- Treatments: pruning, thinning, tree falling, brushing, grazing, debris management (e.g. pile and burning) and/or reforestation
- Post-treatment activities: completion of post treatment data collection, signage, post treatment report and education and/or media related to the demonstration project
- Preparation of all final report requirements, including maps, spatial data and metadata, including a post treatment report

Phased Projects

Applicants can apply for fuel management demonstration projects that include prescription <u>and</u> fuel management treatment for the same treatment unit(s) provided that sufficient detail on estimated treatment size and post-treatment outcomes are included. Under the FireSmart Economic Recovery Fund, this is considered a phased project and specific funding conditions will apply.

Interim Report Requirements for Phased Projects Only

For projects that include prescription plan development and fuel management treatment for the same treatment unit(s) the following is required to be submitted to UBCM <u>prior to starting the treatment</u>:

- The completed signed/sealed prescription.
- For treatment on Crown land only, confirmation that First Nations information sharing has been completed.

In addition, in order to receive authorizations for the treatment, the land manager will require the completed prescription, as well as additional information, such as maps.

Final Report Requirements

In addition to the required final report materials for the FireSmart Economic Recovery Fund, projects that include fuel management activities are required to submit the following.

Table 4: Fuel Management Final Report Requirements	
Fuel Management Prescriptions	**Fuel Management Demonstration Projects**
Copy of the fuel management prescription that is signed and sealed by a Registered Forest Professional including all ancillary assessments (e.g. terrain stability).	Post- treatment report with updated survey data collection as per direction in the prescription, summary of post treatments conditions and fire behaviour outcomes and relationship to prescription treatment objectives. A minimum of three pre and post-treatment pictures per treatment unit.
PDF maps	PDF map
	Spatial data for Provincial Crown land treatments is required to be entered into RESULTS and the Activity Treatment ID is required as evidence of a successful RESULTS entry. Please refer to the “RESULTS Information Submission Specifications: Government Funded Activities” document found in the “Submission Specifications Data Requirements” section.

Report

MUNICIPALITY OF NORTH Cowichan

Date	April 7, 2021	File:	
To	Council		
From	Don Stewart, Director, Parks and Recreation	Endorsed:	
Subject	Regional Application for 2021 UBCM Community Emergency Preparedness Grant		

Purpose

To consider partnering with the Cowichan Valley Regional District (CVRD) on a regional application under the Union of BC Municipalities (UBCM) Community Emergency Preparedness Grant for Emergency Operations Centres.

Background

Regularly, UBCM releases a grant program to assist with the development, sustaining or enhancement of emergency preparedness for communities within the Province.

The CVRD approached all local governments in the region to seek support for a regional application to the UBCM Community Emergency Preparedness Grant for Emergency Operations Centre (CEPG-EOC). The maximum individual local government grant would be $25,000 and under the regional grant it would increase to $200,000 if all partners joined. Regional partners would include the City of Duncan, Cowichan Tribes, Cowichan Valley Regional District, Malahat First Nation, Stz'uminus First Nation, Town of Ladysmith, Town of Lake Cowichan, and the Municipality of North Cowichan.

The intent of the funding is to build local capacity for Emergency Operation Centres (EOC) and to enhance EOC capacity through training and exercises. These are key components that we rely on the CVRD to provide or assist us in providing.

The grant submission deadline was March 26, 2021 and the CVRD received verbal approval to apply on our behalf, pending Council approval.

Discussion

The CVRD's Regional CEPG-EOC is focused on expanding, upgrading and modernizing emergency communications capacity in a variety of methods. The grant application will continue to build volunteer capacity (including training and equipment) along with the number of deployable equipment for communication purposes. A complete description including objectives is provided in Attachment 1 – UBCM EOC Grant Backgrounder 2021.pdf.

Options

Option 1 That Council authorize the Cowichan Valley Regional District to apply for, receive, and manage the UBCM Community Emergency Preparedness Fund Emergency Operations Centre grant funding up to $25,000 on behalf of the District of North Cowichan.

Option 2 Council does not authorize the CVRD to apply for the UBCM Community Emergency Preparedness Fund Emergency Operations Centre grant- No motion required

Implications

Option 1 Allows for a substantial grant application which provides fundamental training and equipment purchase or upgrading for regional emergency services.

Supports the regional approach to providing centralized emergency operations and response.

Supports Council's engagement strategy of working collaboratively with regional government partners, ensuring a strong relationship with the Cowichan Valley Regional District (CVRD).

Option 2 Would reduce the regional grant application by $25,000 and the monies would not be available to the Municipality due to grant timelines.

Would not support the regional approach to providing centralized emergency operations and response.

Would not support Council's engagement strategy of working collaboratively with regional government partners, ensuring a strong relationship with the Cowichan Valley Regional District (CVRD)

Recommendation

That Council authorize the Cowichan Valley Regional District to apply for, receive, and manage the UBCM Community Emergency Preparedness Fund Emergency Operations Centre grant funding up to $25,000 on behalf of the District of North Cowichan.

Attachment(s):

1) UBCM Regional EOC Grant Backgrounder 2021.pdf

UBCM Community Emergency Preparedness Fund 2021

Emergency Operations Centre Grant

Regional Emergency Communication Enhancements

Emergency Operations Centers and Emergency Communications: Emergency Communications describes communications equipment, plans and systems used in operation of Emergency Operation Centres (EOC) for response to emergency events. The same equipment and system capacity is also used as alternative or redundant communications for responders in the event of regular telecommunications outages, which are frequently encountered during emergency events.

The current Cowichan Emergency Communications program: The CVRD supports emergency communications by way of a regional "Disaster Radio" program, a 25-person volunteer communications team, amateur radio stations, radio repeater sites, a regional communications plan, a deployable satellite phone and a small cache of spare two-way radio equipment. The Emergency Communications Program of the Emergency Program service is supported by a .5 FTE Emergency Telecommunication Coordinator.

Intent of the UBCM funding: The intent of this funding stream is to support eligible applicants to build local capacity through the purchase of equipment and supplies required to maintain or improve Emergency Operations Centres (EOC) and to enhance EOC capacity through training and exercises. Ongoing operational costs are not eligible. Communications systems are specifically eligible under the EOC grant stream to build EOC capacity. All local governments (municipalities and regional districts) and all First Nations (bands and Treaty First Nations) in BC are eligible to apply.

Regional approach: Each applicant is eligible for up to $25,000, however the CEPF EOC grant allows for a regional approach whereby the maximum funding available is based on the number of eligible applicants included in the regional application. The CVRD proposes a regional grant approach in the total amount of $200,000 with the following as partners: City of Duncan, Cowichan Tribes, Cowichan Valley Regional District, Malahat First Nation, Municipality of North Cowichan, Town of Ladysmith, Town of Lake Cowichan, and Stz'uminus First Nation.

Cowichan EOC Grant Proposal: A combined grant would be used to enhance regional emergency communications capacity by expanding and upgrading a dedicated EOC radio network, upgrading existing amateur radio installations, modernizing the existing regional disaster radio program (Equipment is 20+ years old), continuing to build volunteer capacity (training, equipment), as well as increasing the number of deployable communications, computer and power kits for use in primary, secondary, remote or ad-hoc EOCs. Additionally, the grant application will request funding to meet specific EOC equipment needs. Equipment upgrades on this scale, with a far-reaching impact and scalability, would likely be unavailable without grant funding.

The objectives would be as follows:

1) Increase two-way radio capacity to enhance secure EOC to EOC communications in the Cowichan area by adding a radio repeater to increase coverage; and upgrading existing radio repeaters. This will also increase responder communications capacity.
2) Modernize and expand the "disaster radio" program by upgrading each individual kit with a digital ready radio; add 5 new disaster radio kits and distribute to partner organizations or

agencies. The "Disaster Radio" program provides a dedicated emergency two-way radio to enable emergency communications between emergency response agencies, local governments and First Nation in the event of disaster. Disaster radios are stationed at EOCs, fire halls, police stations, ambulance stations, local government offices, First Nations office, etc.

3) Increase number of deployable communications assets such as an MSAT satellite telephone (+1), EOC Laptop and Computer Kit (+4 kits), EOC Power Kit (+5). These kits will be able to be deployed to any emergency program partner as required.
4) Equip EOC and emergency communications volunteers with personal protective equipment and radios (+42 radios).
5) Purchase and replenish EOC supplies (ICS Vests, EOC form kits, EOC signage)
6) Provide all partner municipalities, First Nations, and agencies with training to build knowledge and experience with the regional emergency communications systems

FOR ACTION: Each interested municipality and First Nation must resolve "*for the Cowichan Valley Regional District to apply for, receive, and manage the UBCM Community Emergency Preparedness Fund Emergency Operations Centre grant funding up to $25,000 on behalf of insert Municipality or First Nation name*".

2021 EOC Regional Communications Modernization

Proposed Project Budget

Project Phase	Description	North Zone		South Zone		West Zone		Central Zone (North of River)		Central Zone (South of River)		ALL ZONES				TOTAL (net of tax)	CEPF Portion	Partners	CVRD In-Kind	Comments
		North Oyster, Stz'munis, Town of Ladysmith, Thetis Island, Areas G, H, I		Mill Bay, Malahat, Shawnigan Lake, Cobble Hill, Areas A, B, C		Town of Lake Cowichan, Area F, H		North Cowichan, City of Duncan, Halalt, Cowichan Tribes, Area D, E		Municipality of North Cowichan, City of Duncan, Cowichan Tribes, Area D, E		Volunteer Resources		Regional Resources						
	Quantity & Cost	#	Cost	#	Cost	#	Cost	#	Cost	#	Cost	#	Cost	#	Cost					
EOC Repeater System Enhancement & Expansion	VHF Repeater (Digital Capablity)													1	$13,500	$13,500	$13,500			
	Microwave Equipment (Antennas)													6	$5,100	$5,100	$5,100			
	Microwave Equipment (Radios)													6	$16,650	$16,650	$16,650			
	Repeater System Design and Installation													1	$12,500	$12,200	$12,200			
	Amateur Radio Repeater Batteries													1	$15,000	$15,000	$15,000			
	Project Management & Installation															$7,500	$0		$7,500	ETC Staff Time
"Disaster Radio" Revitalization Program	Disaster Radio Replacements - VHF Radio	15	$595	15	$595	10	$595	17	$595	8	$595			65	$37,375	$37,375	$37,375			
	Disaster Kit Refurbishment - Misc Parts													1	1000	$1,000	$1,000			
Deployable Kits - EOC Satellite Communications	MSAT Satellite Telephone - Portable Kit	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	7725	$7,725	$7,725			
Deployable Kits - EOC Computers and Networking	Laptop (with Office)	4	6000	4	6000	4	6000	-	-	4	6000	-	-	-	-	$24,000	$24,000			
	Network Switch including cables	1	300	1	300	1	300	1	300	1	300	-	-	-	-	$1,500	$1,500			
	Router with LTE capability	1	275	1	275	1	275	1	275	1	275					$1,375	$1,375			
	Phone Sets	2	40	2	40	2	40	2	40	2	40	-	-	-	-	$200	$200			
	Equipment Storage - Pelican Cases	1	700	1	700	1	700	1	700	1	700	-	-	-	-	$3,500	$3,500			
Deployable Kits - EOC Power resources	Power Pack + Solar Panels	1	1200	1	1200	1	1200	1	1200	1	1200	-	-	-	-	$6,000	$6,000			
	Portable Generators (Gasoline)	1	1295	1	1295	1	1295	1	1295	1	1295	-	-	-	-	$6,475	$6,475			
	Power Cords, power bars, extension cords	1	250	1	250	1	250	1	250	1	250	-	-	-		$1,250	$1,250			
EOC Supplies	EOC Vests, Signage, Display Boards	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	5,500.00	-	-	-	-	-	10,000.00	$15,500	$15,500			
Equip Volunteers	Volunteer Radios - ESS & ECT Teams	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	42	24900	-	-	$24,900	$24,900			
	Volunteer Jackets - ECT Team	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	25	6675	-	-	$6,675	$6,675			
EOC Communications Training	EOC Communications Training														$20,000	$20,000	$0	$10,000	$10,000	Staff Time
	TOTAL		**10,655**		**10,655**		**10,655**		**4,655**		**10,655**		**31,575**		**118,850**	**$227,425**	**$199,925**			

Report

MUNICIPALITY OF NORTH Cowichan

Date	April 7, 2021	File:	
To	Council		
From	Mairi Campeau, Community Planner	Endorsed:	
Subject	Development Variance Permit Application No. DVP00060 for 1379 Maple Bay Road		

Purpose

To consider a development variance permit application to vary Section 52(6) (d) of Zoning Bylaw 2950, 1997 to reduce the side yard setbacks for two existing accessory buildings at 1379 Maple Bay Road.

Background

Site Context

The 0.94 ha (2.33 ac.) subject property is located at 1379 Maple Bay Road. The property is located outside of the Urban Containment Boundary (UCB), is designated as "rural" in the Official Community Plan (OCP) and is not in the Agricultural Land Reserve (ALR) (ATTACHMENT 1 & 2). The property is zoned Rural (A2). A single family dwelling and three accessory buildings exist on the property (ATTACHMENT 3).

Proposal

This application proposes to vary Section 52(6) (d) of Zoning Bylaw No. 2950, 1997 to reduce the side yard setback requirement for:

- an existing accessory building (also the subject of a Zoning Amendment) on the northeast side of the property from 3.0m to 1.37m
- an existing accessory building (shed with no foundation) on the southwest side of the property from 3.0m to 2.15m.

The property has four existing buildings – a single-family dwelling and three accessory buildings. Two of these accessory buildings do not comply with side yard setback requirements, and the applicant is seeking to bring these buildings into compliance by obtaining a Development Variance Permit (ATTACHMENT 6). A summary of the setback requirements, the existing setbacks and the proposed relaxation are shown in the table below.

	Setback Requirement (side)	Existing Setback	Proposed Relaxation
Accessory Building (NE side)	3.0m	1.37m	1.63m
Accessory Building (SW side)	3.0m	2.15m	0.85m

This property is also the subject of a Zoning Amendment application to permit a second detached dwelling. The applicant wishes to obtain a zoning amendment that would authorize the use of the accessory building on the northeast side of the property as a detached second dwelling. Although this building is permitted as an accessory building, it has been functioning for many years as a dwelling. If approved, this development variance permit application would vary the side yard setback under its existing permitted use (accessory building). If the Zoning Amendment application was also approved, the use of the building would be converted to a dwelling unit. The side yard setback in the A2 zone for a dwelling unit is the same for an accessory building (3.0m) so the requested variance would apply to both the current use (accessory building) and the proposed use (dwelling unit). It is possible that the subject buildings are lawful non-conforming (i.e. "grandfathered") in that they pre-date the current setback requirements and were built in compliance with the zoning regulations at the time, however, there are no records to confirm this.

Discussion

The building that is the subject of the Zoning Amendment application is located on the northeast side of the property. It was built as a garage approximately 60 years ago. The other accessory building that forms part of this application is located on the southwest side of the property and is a wooden shed, with no foundation.

The objective of this application is to bring these buildings into compliance, particularly the building that is the subject of a Zoning Amendment, as there is a proposed change of use from what is currently permitted (accessory building to dwelling unit).

Analysis

The properties north of the subject property are within the Agricultural Land Reserve (ALR) and are actively farmed. There are some trees that provide a buffer from the building on the north east side to the agricultural land on the property to the north. Staff are not aware of adverse impacts to the neighbouring property since the accessory building was built 60 years ago, and approval of the variance is not expected to result in further impacts. The accessory building on the southwest side of the property is also not expected to result in further impacts to the adjacent properties.

Communications & Engagement

Pursuant to the Local Government Act Section 499, notification letters have been sent to all owners and occupants within a 60 metre radius of the subject property. Any responses will be presented to Council at the April 7, 2021 Council meeting. The notice of application includes the subject matter of the application, the date and time where the application will be heard, and applicable North Cowichan staff contact information. The application has been made available for public inspection.

Options

The following options are presented for Council's consideration:

Option 1 – Staff Recommendation:

That Council authorize the issuance of development variance permit DVP00060 and grant the variance to Section 52(6) (d) of Zoning Bylaw 2950, 1997 to reduce the required side yard setbacks for two existing accessory buildings at 1379 Maple Bay Road from 3.0 metres to 1.37 metres on the north east side and 2.15 metres on the south west side.

Option 2:

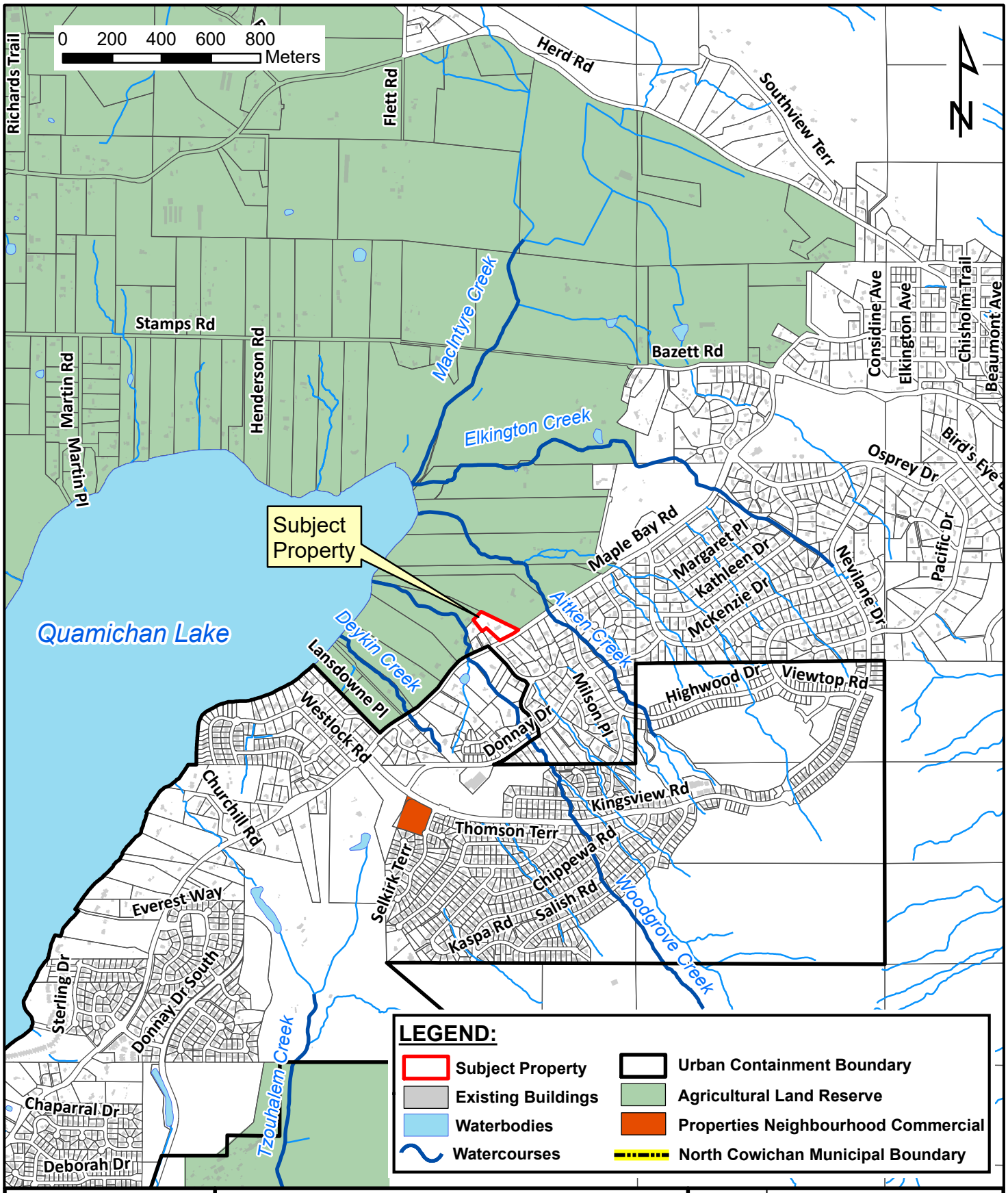
That Council deny development variance permit application DVP00060 to vary Section 52(6)(d) of Zoning Bylaw 2950, 1997 by reducing the required side yard setbacks for two existing accessory buildings on the property at 1379 Maple Bay Road from 3.0 metres to 1.37metres and 2.15 metres.

Recommendation

That Council authorize the issuance of development variance permit DVP00060 and grant the variance to Section 52(6) (d) of Zoning Bylaw 2950, 1997 to reduce the required side yard setbacks for two existing accessory buildings on the property at 1379 Maple Bay Road from 3.0 metres to 1.37 metres on the north east side and 2.15 metres on the south west side.

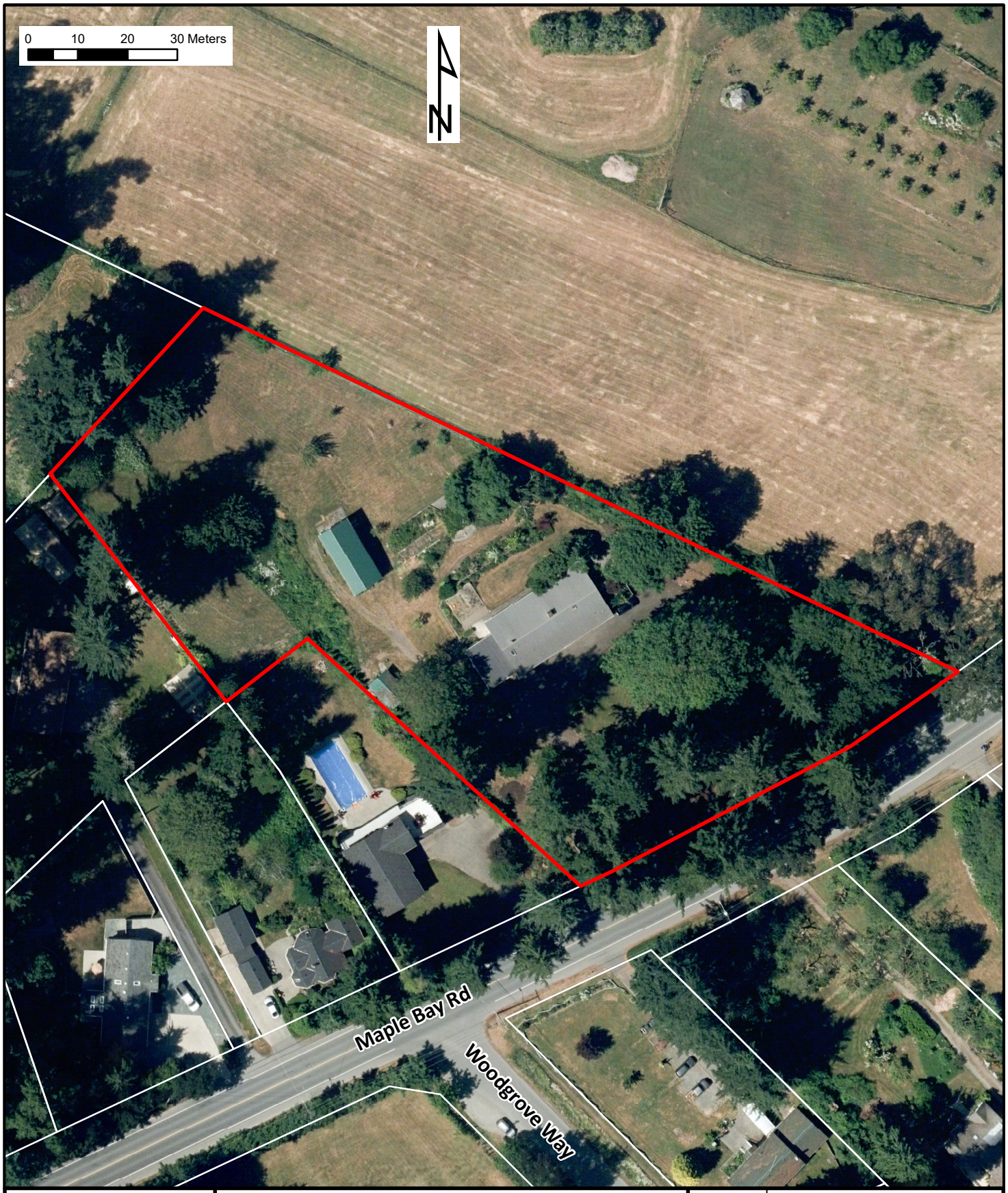
Attachments:

1. Location Map
2. Orthophoto
3. Zoning Map
4. Site Plan
5. Letter of Rationale
6. Draft Development Variance Permit



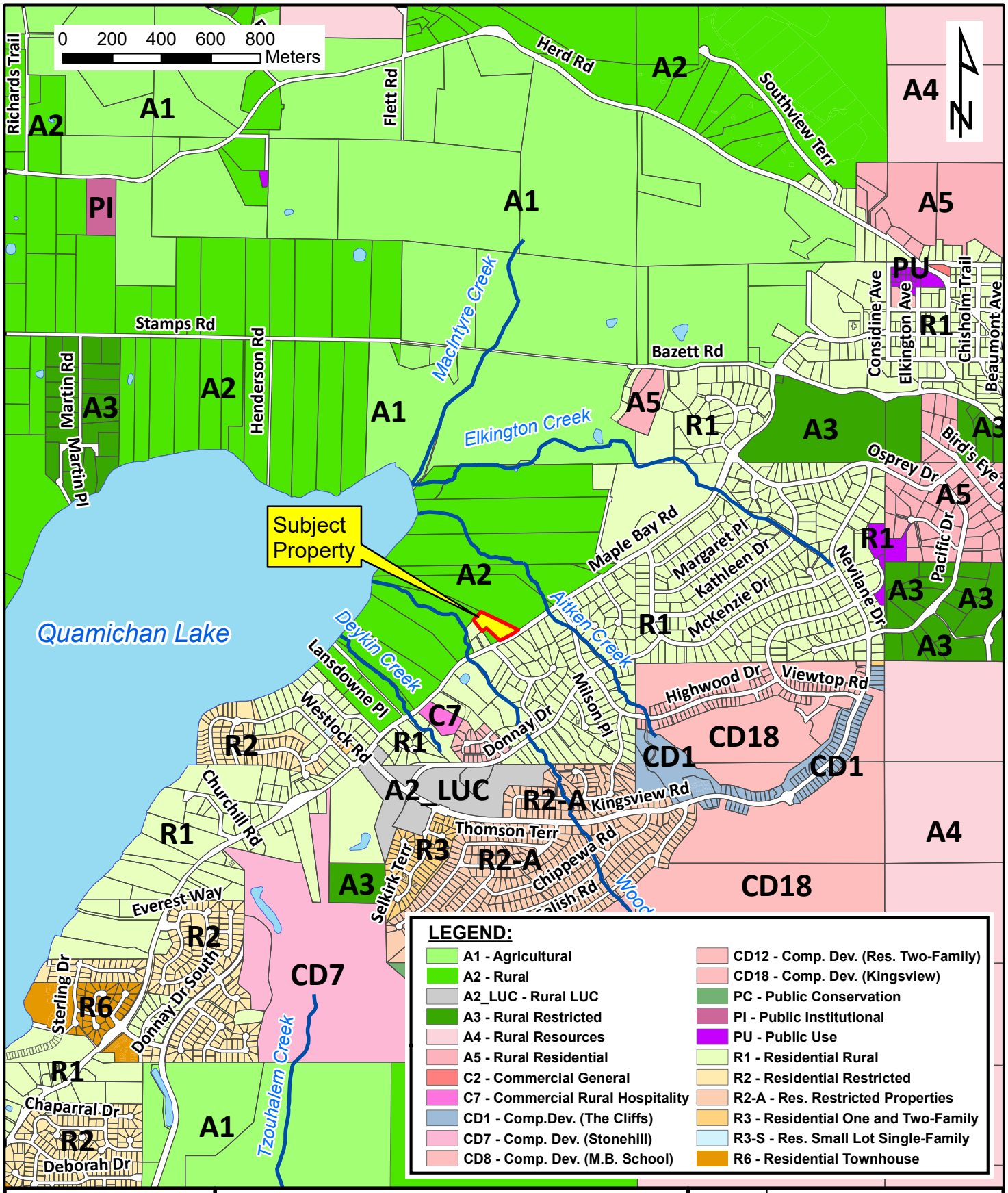
MUNICIPALITY OF NORTH Cowichan

LOCATION MAP	DATE:	February 10, 2021
1379 Maple Bay Road	TYPE:	Development Variance
	FILE#:	DVP00060



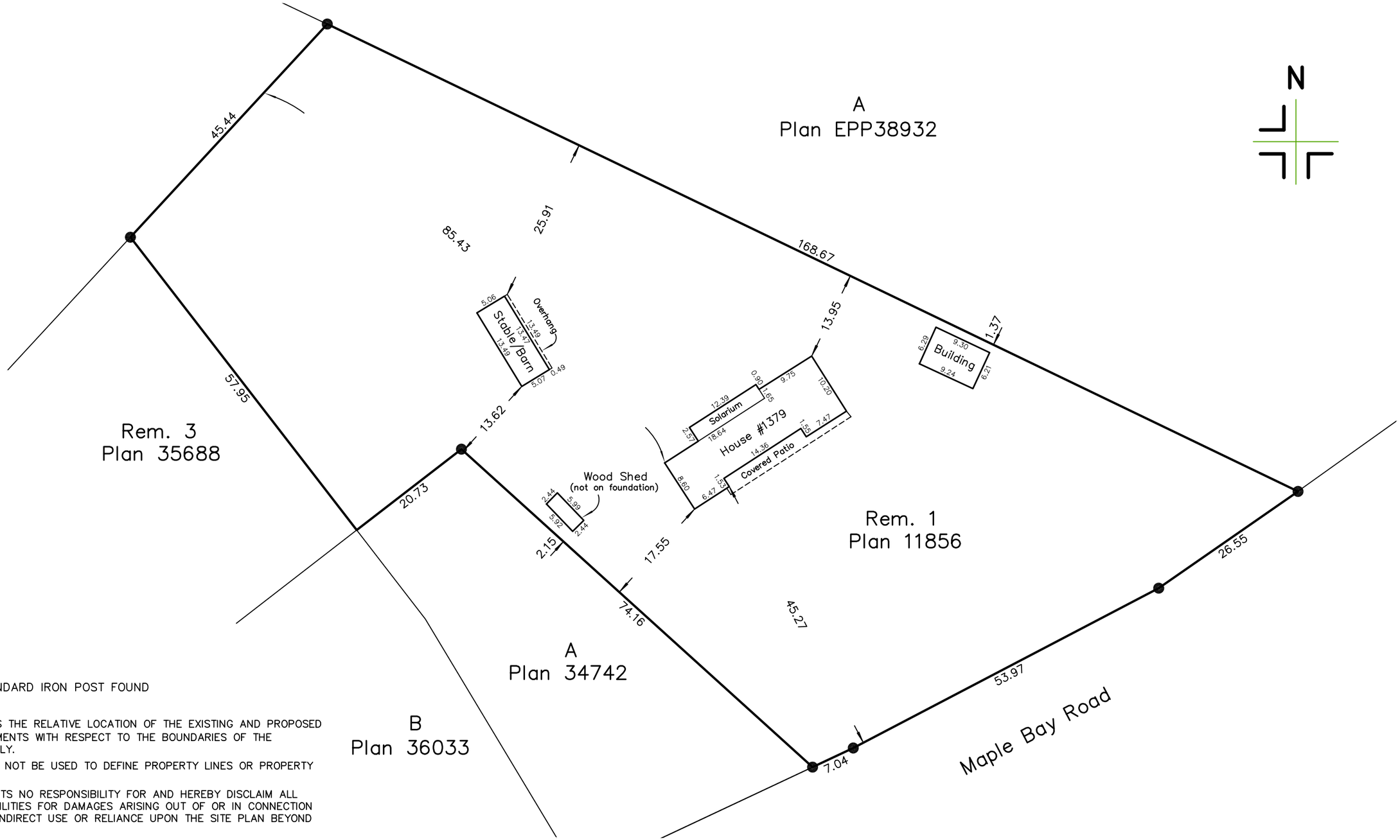
MUNICIPALITY OF NORTH Cowichan

ORTHOPHOTO MAP	DATE:	February 10, 2021
(Orthophoto is from 2019 aerial photography)	TYPE:	Development Variance
1379 Maple Bay Road	FILE#:	DVP00060



MUNICIPALITY OF NORTH Cowichan

ZONING MAP	DATE:	February 10, 2021
1379 Maple Bay Road	TYPE:	Development Variance
	FILE#:	DVP00060



● DENOTES STANDARD IRON POST FOUND

THIS SITE PLAN SHOWS THE RELATIVE LOCATION OF THE EXISTING AND PROPOSED STRUCTURES/IMPROVEMENTS WITH RESPECT TO THE BOUNDARIES OF THE DESCRIBED PARCEL ONLY.

THIS SITE PLAN SHALL NOT BE USED TO DEFINE PROPERTY LINES OR PROPERTY CORNERS.

THE SIGNATORY ACCEPTS NO RESPONSIBILITY FOR AND HEREBY DISCLAIM ALL OBLIGATIONS AND LIABILITIES FOR DAMAGES ARISING OUT OF OR IN CONNECTION WITH ANY DIRECT OR INDIRECT USE OR RELIANCE UPON THE SITE PLAN BEYOND ITS INTENDED USE.

SITE PLAN SHOWING:
LOT 1, SECTION 4, RANGE 3, COMIAKEN DISTRICT, PLAN 11856, EXCEPT PARTS IN PLANS 21251 AND 34742.

Client: R.E.B. DEVELOPMENT SERVICES			Civic Address: 1379 MAPLE BAY ROAD
File: 20–155	Scale: 1:600	Drawn by: DRW	Property Zoning: A2

0 25 50

SCALE 1:600
DISTANCES SHOWN ARE IN METRES.

Certified correct this 15th day of January, 2021.

_____ B.C.L.S.
(This document is not valid unless originally signed and sealed.)

Turner & Associates
land surveying inc.
250.753.9778
435 Terminal Avenue North
Nanaimo, BC V9S 4J8
www.turnersurveys.ca

Rural Zone (A2)

Permitted Uses

52 (1) The permitted uses for the A2 zone are as follows:

Accessory Dwelling Unit
Agriculture
Agricultural Storage
Assisted Living
Bed and Breakfast
Community Care Facility
Craft Distillery
Forestry Use
Greenhouse
Home-based Business
Kennel
Manufactured Home
Riding Stable
Single-Family Dwelling
Supportive Housing
Temporary Mobile Home (subject to the Temporary Mobile Home Permit Bylaw). [BL3754]
Two-Family Dwelling [BL3302, BL3457, BL3520]

Minimum Lot Size

(2) The minimum permitted lot size for the A2 zone is 2 hectares (4.94 acres).

Minimum Frontage

(3) The minimum permitted frontage for the A2 zone is 75.0 m (246.06').

Density

(4) The maximum permitted density in the A2 zone is one residential building per lot, except in the following circumstances:

(a) where land is not within the Agricultural Land Reserve, and is at least two hectares (4.94 acres) in area, a maximum of two residential buildings are permitted with a maximum of two dwelling units;

(b) where land is within the Agricultural Land Reserve, and is at least two hectares (4.94 acres) in area, additional dwelling units may, with Agricultural Land Commission approval, be permitted for bona fide farm labour;

(c) where a Temporary Mobile Home is permitted, subject to the Temporary Mobile Home Permit Bylaw; [BL3754]

(d) despite paragraph (a), a maximum of two residential buildings with a total combined maximum of three dwelling units is permitted on 941 Arbutus Avenue (PID 000-232-556);

(e) despite paragraph (a), a maximum of two residential buildings with a total combined maximum density of two dwelling units is permitted on the following properties:

(i) 3252 Gibbins Road (PID 006-360-378);
(ii) 3286 Gibbins Road (PID 004-555-562);
(iii) 3276 Gibbins Road (PID 002-343-789);
(iv) 3240 Gibbins Road (PID 002-742-501);
(v) Lot 1..., Plan 21749, Banks Road (PID 002-705-087);
(vi) B-3228 Gibbins Road (PID 001-252-267);
(vii) Lot 4..., Plan 8636, Cliffs Road (PID 005-586-429);
(viii) 3088 Cliffs Road (PID 005-586-445);
(ix) Lot 5..., Plan 8636, Cliffs Road (PID 005-586-437);

(x) Part of Lot 11..., Plan 2785, Banks Road (PID 006-360-742);
(xi) Part of Lot 1..., Plan 9537 (PID 005-338-859);
(xii) A-3228 Gibbins Road (PID 000-041-874);
(xiii) repealed;
(xiv) 3246 Gibbins Road (PID 028-738-080);
(xv) Lot A..., Plan 10506 (PID 005-267-412);
(xvi) 3186 Gibbins Road (PID 005-409-292).
[BL3287; BL3697; BL3757]

Maximum Lot Coverage

(5) The maximum permitted lot coverage for the A2 zone is 10% of the lot area.

Minimum Setbacks

(6) The minimum permitted setbacks for the A2 zone are as follows:

(a) Single-Family Dwellings and Two-Family Dwellings
Yard, Front, 6.0 m (19.68')
Yard, Side, 3.0 m (9.84')
Yard, Rear, 8.0 m (26.25')

(b) Mobile Homes
Yard, Front, 30.0 m (98.42')
Yard, Side, 12.0 m (39.37')
Yard, Rear, 12.0 m (39.37')

(c) All Other Principal Buildings
Yard, Front, 25 m (82.02')
Yard, Side, 15 m (49.21')
Yard, Rear, 15 m (49.21')".
Yard, Abutting Residentially Zoned Property, 30 m (98.42') [BL3767]

(d) Accessory Buildings and Structures (Excluding Fences)
Yard, Front, 8.0 m (26.25')
Yard, Side, 3.0 m (9.84')
Yard, Rear, 8.0 m (26.25')

(e) Temporary Mobile Homes
To be sited in accordance with the provisions of the Temporary Mobile Home Permit Bylaw. [BL3754]

(f) Kennel
Yard, Front, 30 m (98.43')
Yard, Side, 30 m (98.43')
Yard, Rear, 30 m (98.43') [BL3758]

Maximum Building Height

(7) (a) The maximum permitted building height for buildings, containing one or more dwelling units, within the A2 zone is 9.0 m (29.53').

(b) Despite the foregoing, the height of other farm buildings is subject to the provisions of the ACNBC Farm Building Code 1995.

Conditions of Use

(8) The conditions of use for the A2 zone are as follows:

(a) Bed and breakfast uses may have no more than six sleeping units and may be conducted in a maximum of one accessory building (with no kitchen) and/or one dwelling unit.

(b) Limited farm sale of agricultural products may be sold directly to the public provided that:

(i) a minimum of 50% of the agricultural products offered for sale are produced on the land;

(ii) the covered retail sales area does not exceed 100 m^2 (1076.4 sq. ft.); and

(iii) the retail sales are clearly ancillary to the farm use.

(c) Assisted Living, Supportive Housing, and Community Care Facilities may be permitted provided that

(i) the number of residents does not exceed ten, including resident staff,

(ii) the use is within a single-family dwelling unit only, which for clarity does not include a two-family dwelling,

(iii) approval from the Agricultural Land Commission is obtained, where the property is within the Agricultural Land Reserve,

(iv) valid health permits for septic systems or on-site wastewater treatment systems are obtained, and

(v) each single-family dwelling unit may contain this use where the property is two hectares (4.94 acres) or greater and has two single-family dwelling units.

(d) despite section 52 (1), "campground (seasonal)" is a permitted use on 3042 River Road, and "campground (short-term)" is a permitted use on 8701 Chemainus Road, 8682 and 9090 Trans-Canada Highway, and 3800 Gibbins Road for a maximum of 25 campsites during a gathering for an event. [BL3662]

(e) [Repealed; BL3697].

(f) a maximum of 14 gatherings for an event with up to 150 attendees, and 20 events with up to 20 attendees, are permitted per year on 3800 Gibbins Road.
[BL3083, BL3302, BL3323, BL3521, BL3554, BL3662]

(g) A kennel must not be located on a lot less than 8000 m2 (1.98 acres) in area. [BL3758]

MUNICIPALITY OF NORTH Cowichan

7030 Trans-Canada Highway
Duncan, BC V9L 6A1 Canada
www.northcowichan.ca
T 250.746.3100
F 250.746.3154

Development Variance Permit - DRAFT

Permit No: DVP00060/20.08

Registered Owner: Wyvern Capital Inc.

Subject Property: 1379 Maple Bay Road **Folio:** 08895-000

Description of Land:
Parcel Identifier: 004-893-409
Legal Description: Lot 1, Section 4, Range 3, Comiaken District, Plan 11856 Except Parts in Plans 21251 and 34742

Proposal: To vary Section 52(6) (d) to reduce the side-yard setback for two existing accessory buildings.

1. This permit is issued subject to compliance with all relevant District of North Cowichan bylaws.
2. This permit applies to the lands described above, and any buildings, structures, and other development thereon (hereinafter called 'the Lands').
3. Pursuant to section 498 of the *Local Government Act* (RSBC 2015, c. 1), this permit varies Section 52 (6)(d) of Zoning Bylaw 1997, No. 2950 by reducing the minimum permitted side-yard setbacks from 3.0 metres to 1.37 metres for an existing accessory building; and 3.0 metres to 2.15 metres for an additional existing accessory building.
4. The Lands subject to this permit shall be developed within the terms and conditions of this permit and in accordance with Schedule 1 – Site Plan.
5. This permit is not a building permit.
6. Pursuant to section 504(1) of the *Local Government Act*, this permit lapses two years from date of issue if the holder of the permit does not substantially start any construction with respect to which this permit is issued.

Date of Development Variance Permit Approval/Issue by Council or its Delegate:

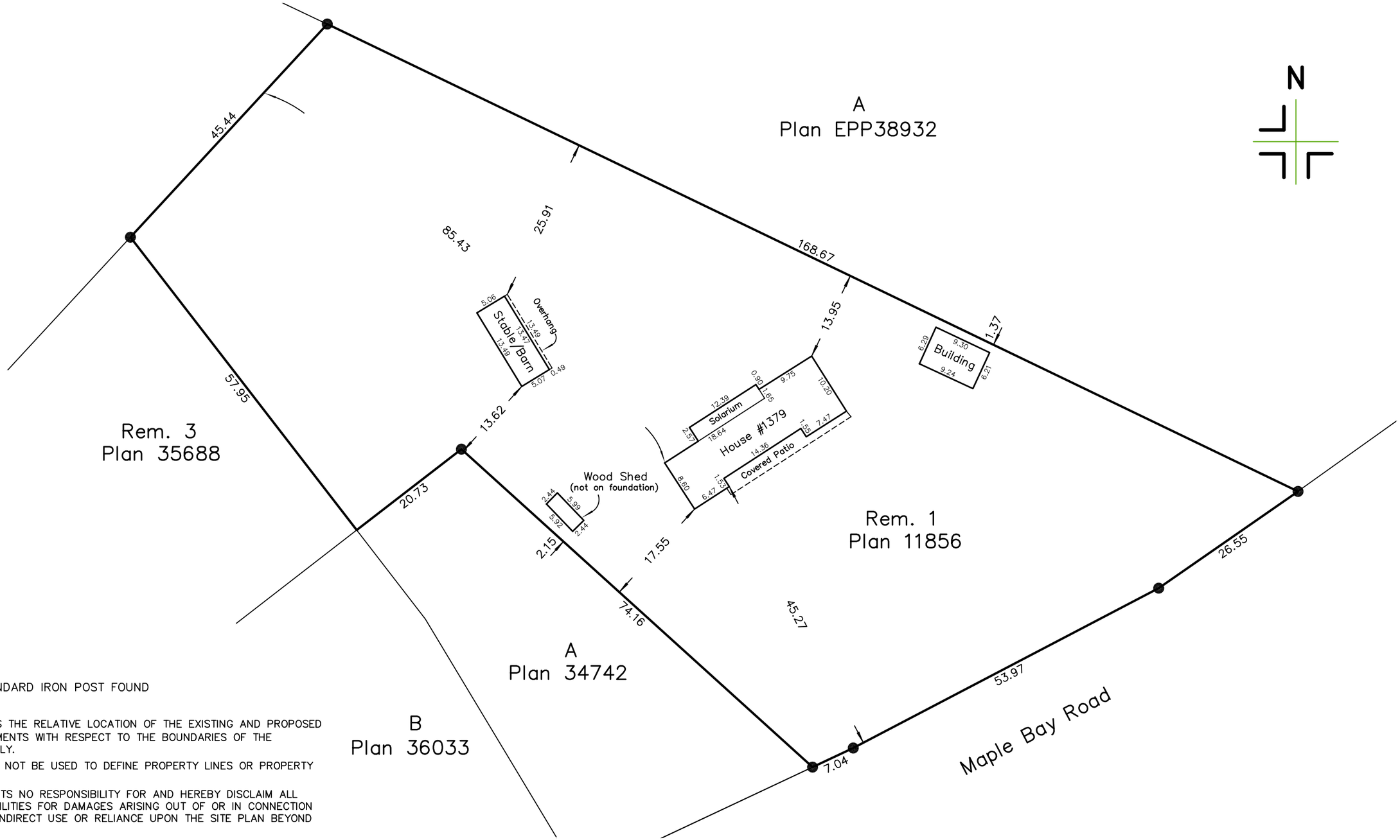
This permit was approved **(Date of Council Approval)** and issued on **(Date of Issuance).**

This permit expires on **(2 Years from Date of Issuance).**

The Corporation of the District of North Cowichan

_____

Designated Municipal Officer



● DENOTES STANDARD IRON POST FOUND

THIS SITE PLAN SHOWS THE RELATIVE LOCATION OF THE EXISTING AND PROPOSED STRUCTURES/IMPROVEMENTS WITH RESPECT TO THE BOUNDARIES OF THE DESCRIBED PARCEL ONLY.

THIS SITE PLAN SHALL NOT BE USED TO DEFINE PROPERTY LINES OR PROPERTY CORNERS.

THE SIGNATORY ACCEPTS NO RESPONSIBILITY FOR AND HEREBY DISCLAIM ALL OBLIGATIONS AND LIABILITIES FOR DAMAGES ARISING OUT OF OR IN CONNECTION WITH ANY DIRECT OR INDIRECT USE OR RELIANCE UPON THE SITE PLAN BEYOND ITS INTENDED USE.

SITE PLAN SHOWING:
LOT 1, SECTION 4, RANGE 3, COMIAKEN DISTRICT, PLAN 11856, EXCEPT PARTS IN PLANS 21251 AND 34742.

Client: R.E.B. DEVELOPMENT SERVICES			Civic Address: 1379 MAPLE BAY ROAD
File: 20–155	Scale: 1:600	Drawn by: DRW	Property Zoning: A2

0 25 50

SCALE 1:600
DISTANCES SHOWN ARE IN METRES.

Certified correct this 15th day of January, 2021.

_____ B.C.L.S.
(This document is not valid unless originally signed and sealed.)

Turner & Associates
land surveying inc.
250.753.9778
435 Terminal Avenue North
Nanaimo, BC V9S 4J8
www.turnersurveys.ca

Report

MUNICIPALITY OF NORTH Cowichan

Date	March 3, 2021	File:	
To	Council		
From	Don Stewart, Director, Parks and Recreation	Endorsed:	
Subject	Cowichan Sportsplex Fieldhouse Update		

Purpose

To provide Council with a status update, including the budget shortfall, for the fieldhouse project at the Cowichan Sportsplex.

Background

The Fieldhouse is a 2020 Capital Project in cooperation with the Cowichan Sportsplex. The Fieldhouse facility is intended to meet the needs of the competitors and public who attend the facility. Concept plans for the two storey building, developed in 2018, included team dressing rooms, public washrooms, meeting space, office space and associated mechanical rooms.

In December 2018 a provincial grant ($1.067 million) was awarded to this project with the intention to proceed thereafter. In March 2018, Rowing Canada started planning their Cowichan Valley move and their infrastructure development, which had synergy with the proposed fieldhouse. The decision not to proceed with Rowing Canada as part of the fieldhouse project was made in September 2020.

The approved project budget is primarily through a Provincial Grant of $1.067 million (based on 2018 cost estimates). Additional monies allocated to the project budget from North Cowichan ($95,000), CVRD ($75,000), City of Duncan ($25,000), Summer Games Legacy Fund ($42,000) and the Sunrise Rotary Club ($75,000) for a final budget of $1.380 million. This $1.380 million budget is segmented into a $1.250 million construction budget and ~$130,000 for architectural, geotechnical and construction management costs.

Discussion

In 2020, RJC Architectural Services was hired to finalize concept plans, develop construction drawings, and provide the initial cost analysis. This initial cost estimate (see Attachment 1 – architectural drawings first draft) received in October 2020 was $2.2 million, which is $950,000 over the existing construction budget of $1.250 million.

In conjunction with the Cowichan Sportsplex and the architect, plans were modified to reduce costs (see Attachment 2 –Sportsplex Fieldhouse – architectural drawings second draft). Modified building plans ended with a single floor structure in which the administration space was eliminated, meeting space size reduced, and the layout reconfigured.

The new building cost is $1.58 million ($330,000 over the existing construction budget) based on the revised drawings.

For the $330,000 overage for Fieldhouse building construction, there is the opportunity to transfer the Municipality's remaining contribution to the Cowichan Aquatic Centre (CAC) construction budget to the Fieldhouse budget. The CAC net construction costs have been finalized and utilize 100% of the Provincial Grant received ($2.377 million), and $20,000 of the $400,000 contribution from the Municipality ($348,000 – 87.5%) and the City of Duncan ($52,000 – 12.5%). Transfer to be considered to the Fieldhouse project would be $380,000 comprised of $332,500 from the Municipality, and a request of the City of Duncan to allocate their $47,500 contribution.

This project fund transfer would permit the project to proceed with the $332,500 from the Municipality. The $47,500 from the City would act as a contingency for cost escalations. If the Fieldhouse project comes under budget, the remaining funds would be returned to the two local governments, based on the allocation percentages presented above.

Options

Option 1	THAT Council transfer all unallocated funds under the Cowichan Aquatic Centre Renovation Capital Project budget to the Cowichan Sportsplex Fieldhouse Capital Budget. And, THAT Council directs staff to contact the City of Duncan and request that they transfer their unallocated funds from the Cowichan Aquatic Centre Renovation Capital Project budget to the Cowichan Sportsplex Fieldhouse Capital Budget.
Option 2	Council does not proceed with a budget transfer. (No motion required)

Implications

Option 1	There is no financial impact to the Municipality as the monies had been previously allocated, it is a transfer between capital projects. Aligns with Council's Strategic Plan (Engagement) for supporting community groups and organizations. Aligns with Council's Strategic Plan (Economy) by supporting sports tourism.
Option 2	Eliminates the $95,000 capital budget item and the development of this community need. Is less aligned with Council's Strategic Plan.

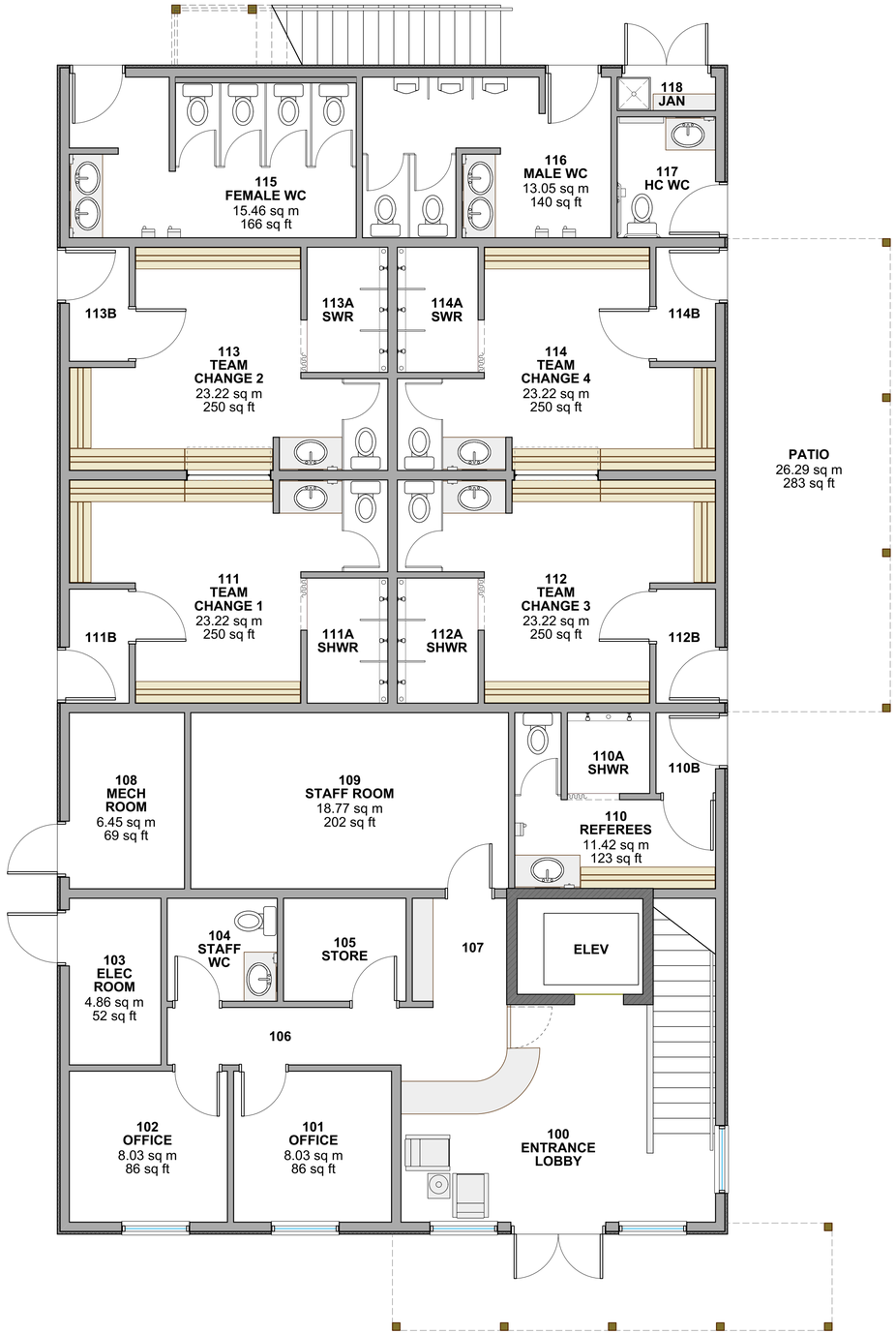
Recommendation

That Council transfer all unallocated funds under the Cowichan Aquatic Centre Renovation Capital Project budget to the Cowichan Sportsplex Fieldhouse Capital Budget.

And, That Council directs staff to contact the City of Duncan and request that they transfer their unallocated funds from the Cowichan Aquatic Centre Renovation Capital Project budget to the Cowichan Sportsplex Fieldhouse Capital Budget.

Attachment(s):

1) Sportsplex Fieldhouse – architectural drawings first draft
2) Sportsplex Fieldhouse – architectural drawings second draft

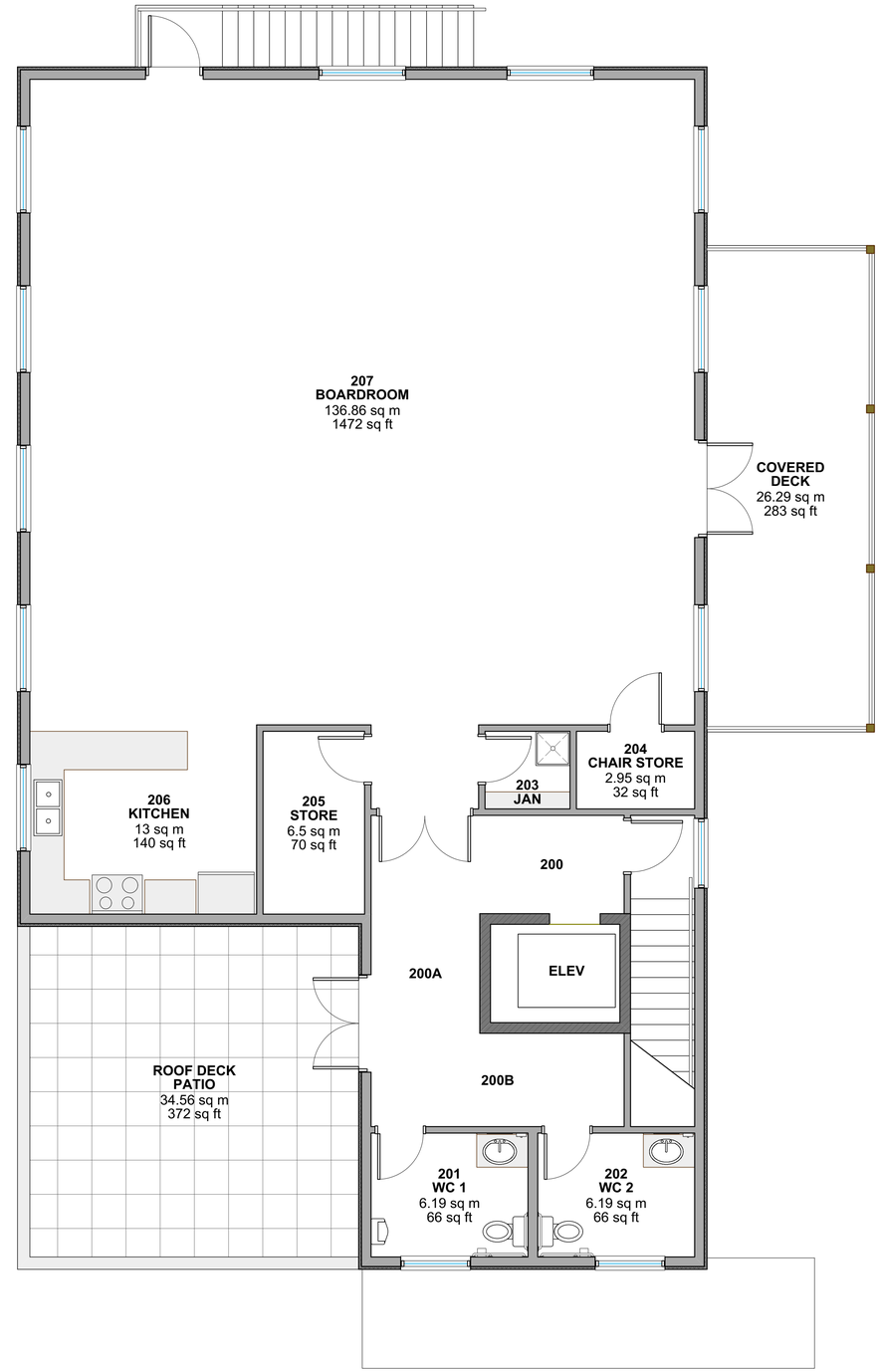


1 FIRST FLOOR PLAN

Scale = 1:50

Gross Floor Area 260.68 sq m (2805 sq ft)
Exterior Patio Area 26.29 sq m (283 sq ft)
Exterior Covered Entrance 8.91 sq m (96 sq ft)

Public Washroom Occupant Load
Females 100
Males 250



2 SECOND FLOOR PLAN

Scale = 1:50

Gross Floor Area 222.36 sq m (2392 sq ft)
Exterior Covered Deck Area 26.29 sq m (283 sq ft)
Exterior Roof Deck Patio Area 34.56 sq m (372 sq ft)

NORTH Cowichan
COWICHAN SPORTSPLEX
Actively inspiring a healthy community

DNC SPORTSPLEX FIELDHOUSE

JSA SPORT
ARCHITECTURE PLANNING SURFACING
1530 Athlone Drive, Victoria, BC, V8T 2T1, Tel: 778-433-1343

N

Key Plan:

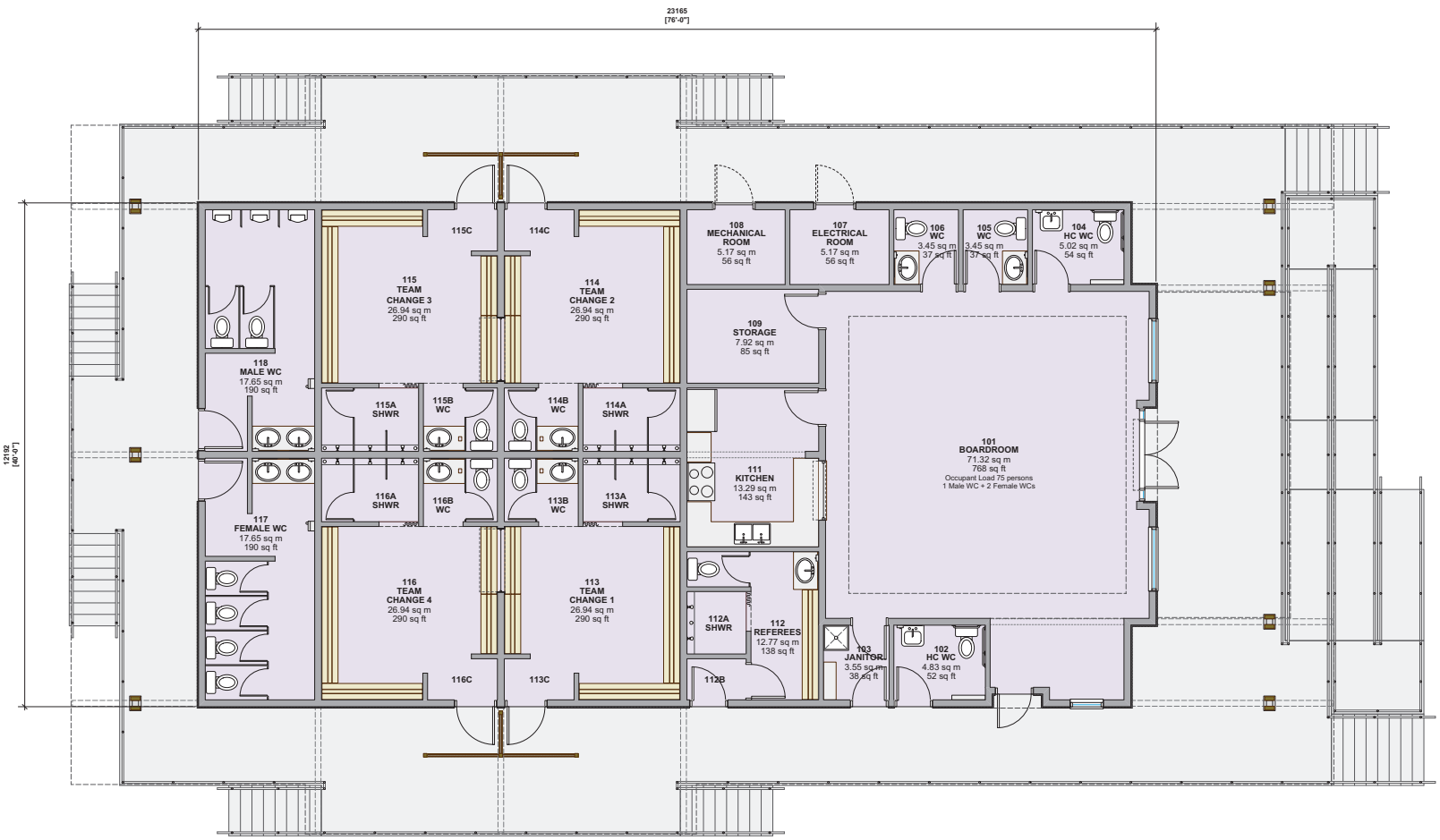
No.	Revisions	Date
1.	XXXX	XXXXXX, 2020

Drawing Title:

FLOOR PLANS

Issue Date: Sept 8, 2020
Drawn by: BAS - LK Checked by: RJJ
Project No.: 32003 Scale: 1:50
Drawing No.:

A201



1 **FIRST FLOOR PLAN**
Scale = 1:50

Gross Floor Area 278.94 sq m (3003 sq ft)
Exterior Sidewalk, Stairs and Ramp 256.38 sq m (2760 sq ft)

Public Washroom Occupant Load
Females 100
Males 250

0mm 5000mm

NORTH Cowichan
COWICHAN SPORTSPLEX
Actively inspiring a healthy community

DNC SPORTSPLEX FIELDHOUSE

JSA SPORT
ARCHITECTURE PLANNING SURFACING
1530 Athlone Drive, Victoria, BC, V8T 2T1, Tel: 778-433-1343

N

Key Plan:

No.	Revisions	Date
1.	XXXX	XXXXXX, 2020

Drawing Title:

OPTION 6
GROUND FLOOR PLAN

Issue Date: Jan 17, 2021
Drawn by: LK Checked by: RJJ
Project No.: 32003 Scale: 1:50
Drawing No.:

A201

MUNICIPALITY OF NORTH Cowichan

District of North Cowichan

2021 General Operating Budget and 2021 – 2025 Capital Expenditure Plan

March 23, 2021

Previous Council Direction

- Supplementary Operating and Capital Requests
- COVID-19 Relief Grant
- Capital Plan

MUNICIPALITY OF NORTH Cowichan

Purpose

- To finalize the 2021 Operating Budget and 2021 -2025 Capital Expenditure Plan for inclusion in the 2021- 2025 Financial Plan Bylaw

Recommendation:

- That Committee of the Whole recommend that Council approve in principle the 2021 Operating Budget and 2021-2025 Capital Expenditure Plan as presented to the Committee of the Whole on March 23, 2021 and direct staff to prepare the 2021-2025 Financial Plan Bylaw.

MUNICIPALITY OF NORTH Cowichan

Five Year Increases

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
Gross tax increase	3.74%	6.04%	6.06%	4.63%	4.54%
Less: Growth	(1.43%)	(1.50%)	(1.25%)	(1.25%)	(1.25%)
Net Tax Increase	2.31%	4.54%	4.81%	3.38%	3.29%

Included in above					
RCMP Increase	156,220	923,855	840,251	83,901	
	0.5%	1.59%	1.83%	0.15%	

MUNICIPALITY OF NORTH Cowichan

COVID Restart Grant

Description	2020	2021	2022	Total
Revenue Shortfall				
CAC Revenue	(844,471)	(1,011,060)		(1,855,531)
Fuller Lake Revenue	(144,222)	(117,270)		(261,492)
	(988,693)	(1,128,330)		(2,117,023)
Additional COVID Expense	681,400	143,300		824,700
Potential new expenses		1,163,120	363,140	1,526,260
	681,400	1,306,420	363,140	2,350,960
Grant Allocated	1,670,093	2,434,750	363,140	4,467,983

MUNICIPALITY OF NORTH Cowichan

Operating Budgets - Departments

	2020 Actual Nov	2020 Budget	2021 Budget	Increase (Decrease)	% Change	% 2021 Budget
General Government	6,335,160	6,039,605	6,685,540	645,935	10.7%	16.2%
Protective Services	9,236,183	9,704,270	10,088,110	383,840	4%	24.4%
Engineering and Environment	1,646,103	2,169,957	2,761,140	591,183	27.2%	6.7%
Operations	6,072,484	5,817,578	6,121,440	303,862	5.2%	14.8%
Forestry	846,104	940,600	782,580	(158,020)	(16.8%)	1.9%
Planning and Building	1,737,372	1,852,627	1,967,030	114,403	6.2%	4.8%
Recreation Parks and Culture	6,637,067	8,563,775	8,908,310	344,535	4.0%	21.6%
Debt Servicing	1,655,986	1,698,578	1,803,700	105,122	6.2%	4.4%
Transfer to Reserves	551,125	1,916,880	2,150,710	233,830	12.2%	5.2%
Total	34,717,584	38,703,870	41,268,560	2,564,690	6.63%	100.0%

MUNICIPALITY OF NORTH Cowichan

General Government

	2020 Actual	2020 Budget	2021 Budget	Budget Increase	Budget % Increase
Legislative (Mayor and Council)	300,038	316,540	369,190	52,650	16.6%
CAO and Communications	668,813	679,819	698,450	18,631	2.7%
Corporate Services	3,668,085	3,502,689	3,898,390	395,701	11.3%
Financial Services	1,038,268	997,884	1,141,320	143,436	14.4%
Common Services	801,926	939,868	984,830	44,962	4.8%
Other General Gov't	138,916	166,455	162,650	(3,805)	(2.3%)
Admin Recoveries	(280,886)	(563,650)	(569,290)	(5,640)	1.0%
Total	6,335,160	6,039,605	6,685,540	645,935	10.7%

MUNICIPALITY OF NORTH Cowichan

Common Services

	2020 Actual	2020 Budget	2021 Budget	Budget Increase	Budget % Increase
Municipal Buildings	210,645	203,718	193,010	(10,708)	(5.3%)
Office	122,180	134,310	125,560	(8,750)	(6.5%)
Legal	291,747	250,000	252,500	2,500	1.0%
Consulting/Contract	98,773	240,000	326,500	86,500	36.0%
Audit	26,500	55,000	45,000	(10,000)	(18.2%)
Meetings	4,159	10,000	10,100	100	1.0%
Annual Functions	28,303	19,870	20,070	200	1.0%
Bank Charges	19,619	26,970	12,090	(14,880)	(55.2%)
Total	801,926	939,868	984,830	44,962	4.8%

MUNICIPALITY OF NORTH Cowichan

Protective Services

	2020 Actual	2020 Budget	2021 Budget	Budget Increase	Budget % Increase
Police Protection	6,784,419	7,268,436	7,281,350	12,914	.18%
Bylaw Services	580,738	517,400	762,300	244,900	47.33%
Fire Protection	1,692,457	1,744,634	1,866,310	121,676	6.97%
Other Protection	178,569	173,800	178,150	4,350	2.5%
Total	9,236,183	9,704,270	10,088,110	383,840	3.96%

MUNICIPALITY OF NORTH Cowichan

Police Protection

	2020 Actual	2020 Budget	2021 Budget	Budget Increase	Budget % Increase
RCMP Contract	4,947,381	5,401,528	5,331,740	(69,788)	(1.3%)
Administration	58,464	38,141	49,040	10,899	28.6%
Clerical	871,980	844,172	906,370	62,198	7.4%
Information Services	94,040	92,342	93,880	1,538	1.7%
Crime Analyst	68,435	101,968	105,100	3,132	3.1%
Restorative Justice	7,100	7,640	7,720	80	1.0%
Building Maintenance	250,504	252,305	246,770	(5,535)	(2.2%)
Guards	486,516	530,340	540,730	10,390	2.0%
Total	6,784,420	7,268,436	7,281,350	12,914	0.2%

MUNICIPALITY OF NORTH Cowichan

Fire Protection

	2020 Actual	2020 Budget	2021 Budget	Increase (Decrease)	% Change
Fire Control	70,421	43,685	38,120	(5,565)	(12.7%)
Fire Inspection	190,257	183,449	297,070	113,621	61.9%
Chemainus Fire Hall	345,577	361,771	362,540	769	0.2%
Crofton Fire Hall	310,850	333,215	336,630	3,415	1.0%
Maple Bay Fire Hall	343,294	352,665	357,940	5,275	1.5%
South End Fire Hall	432,058	469,849	474,010	4,161	0.9%
Total	1,692,457	1,744,634	1,866,310	121,676	7%

MUNICIPALITY OF NORTH Cowichan

Engineering and Environment

	2020 Actual	2020 Budget	2021 Budget	Budget Increase	Budget % Increase
Engineering	1,285,352	1,586,402	1,945,500	359,098	22.6%
Energy and Environment	360,751	583,555	815,640	232,085	39.8%
Total	1,646,103	2,169,957	2,761,140	591,183	27.24%

MUNICIPALITY OF NORTH Cowichan

Environment

	2020 Actual	2020 Budget	2021 Budget	Budget Increase	Budget % Increase
Environmental Program	215,571	209,597	317,410	107,813	51.4%
Environmental Committee	2,912	0	10,000	10,000	100%
CAEP Update	32,955	55,160	185,440	130,280	236.2%
Community Energy Projects	0	30,600	90,000	59,400	194.1%
EV Charger Program	342	21,000	21,000	0	0%
Building Upgrades – Energy	21,454	0	10,000	10,000	100%
Bonsall Cr Watershed	0	50,000	50,500	500	1%
Somenos Cr	37,515	44,366	56,850	12,484	28.1%
Quamichan Lk Water Quality	25,318	148,642	50,000	(98,642)	(66.4%)
Weed/Mosquito Control	24,684	24,190	24,440	250	1%
Total	360,751	583,555	815,640	232,085	39.8%

MUNICIPALITY OF NORTH Cowichan

Operations

	2020 Actual	2020 Budget	2021 Budget	Budget Increase	Budget % Increase
Administration	619,871	471,242	768,540	297,298	63.1%
Garbage and Recycling	1,435,731	1,278,738	1,419,560	140,822	11%
Roads and Drainage	3,683,942	3,748,596	3,587,040	(161,556)	(4.3%)
Cemetery	163,827	149,635	162,700	13,065	8.7%
Wharves	169,113	169,367	183,600	14,233	8.4%
Total	6,072,484	5,817,578	6,121,440	303,862	5.2%

MUNICIPALITY OF NORTH Cowichan

Roads and Drainage

	2020 Actual	2020 Budget	2021 Budget	Budget Increase	Budget % Increase
Roads	1,531,822	1,737,866	1,565,820	(172,046)	(9.9%)
Snow and Ice Removal	495,004	384,609	385,310	701	0.2%
Street Lights	458,476	472,610	502,460	29,850	6.3%
Signs and Road Marking	284,401	307,650	309,300	1,650	0.5%
Drainage	732,104	583,811	555,350	(28,461)	(4.9%)
Training and Safety	70,955	85,940	87,570	1,630	1.9%
Other	111,180	176,110	181,230	5,120	2.9%
Total	3,683,942	3,748,596	3,587,040	(161,556)	-4.3%

MUNICIPALITY OF NORTH Cowichan

Garbage

	2020 Actual	2020 Budget	2021 Budget	Budget Increase	Budget % Increase
Garbage Fees	1,438,958	1,389,900	1,529,500	139,600	10.0%
Garbage Collection	642,320	561,588	598,270	36,682	6.5%
Recycling	316,854	337,780	353,310	15,530	4.6%
Tipping Fees	435,285	334,920	423,000	88,080	26.3%
Other	41,272	44,450	44,980	530	1.2%
	1,435,731	1,278,738	1,419,560	140,822	11.0%
Transfer to Equipment Reserve	108,920	108,920	109,920	1,000	0.9%
Total	1,544,651	1,387,658	1,529,480	141,822	10.2%

MUNICIPALITY OF NORTH Cowichan

Forestry

	2020 Actual	2021 Budget	2022 Budget	2023 Budget	2024 Budget	2025 Budget
Forestry Revenues	315,936	209,150	99,150	99,150	99,150	99,150
Forestry Expenses	846,104	802,580	577,740	586,920	557,320	567,960
Operating Surplus/(Deficit)	(530,168)	(593,430)	(478,590)	(487,770)	(458,170)	(468,810)
From Forestry Reserve	530,168	593,430	478,590	74,571	0	0
General Revenue				413,199	458,170	468,810

MUNICIPALITY OF NORTH Cowichan

Planning and Building Services

	2020 Actual	2020 Budget	2021 Budget	Budget Increase	Budget % Increase
Community and Development Planning	1,047,671	1,193,678	1,260,120	66,442	5.6%
Building Inspection	568,564	542,729	581,500	38,771	7.1%
Economic Development – (Chem BIA)	121,137	116,220	125,410	9,190	7.9%
Total	1,737,372	1,852,627	1,967,030	114,403	6.2%

- 2020 OCP and other plans $249,500, 2021 - $125,000

MUNICIPALITY OF NORTH Cowichan

Recreation, Parks and Facilities

	2020 Actual	2020 Budget	2021 Budget	Budget Increase	Budget % Increase
Administration	189,686	197,718	229,240	31,522	15.9%
Swimming Pools	1,785,649	3,545,846	3,604,280	58,434	1.6%
Arena	852,960	968,871	999,440	30,569	3.2%
Parks & Playgrounds	1,941,127	2,091,289	2,286,640	195,351	9.3%
Regional Library	1,533,901	1,533,901	1,560,300	26,399	1.7%
Grants in Aid	233,744	226,150	228,410	2,260	1.0%
Total	6,637,067	8,563,775	8,908,310	344,535	4.0%

MUNICIPALITY OF NORTH Cowichan

Cowichan Aquatic Centre - Operating

	2020 Actual	2020 Budget	2021 Budget	Budget Increase	Budget % Increase
CAC Revenues	456,298	1,300,655	530,340	-770,315	-59.2%
CAC Expenses	2,398,951	3,697,248	3,511,240	-186,008	-5.0%
Partners' Share – Operating	-1,942,653	-2,396,593	-2,980,900	-584,307	24.4%
Recovery %	19.02%	35.18%	15.10%		
North Cowichan	1,511,089	1,912,433	2,410,030	497,597	26.0%
Duncan	225,795	291,042	366,520	75,478	25.9%
CVRD Areas & Cowichan Tribes	205,769	193,118	204,350	11,232	5.8%
Total	1,942,653	2,396,593	2,980,900	584,307	24.4%

MUNICIPALITY OF NORTH Cowichan

Fiscal Services

	2020 Actual	2020 Budget	2021 Budget	Budget Increase	Budget % Increase
Debt – Interest	747,550	791,125	895,260	104,135	13.16%
Debt - Principal	908,436	907,453	908,440	987	0.11%
Total Fiscal Services	1,655,986	1,698,578	1,803,700	105,122	6.2%

Changes:

- RCMP Detachment Interest $156,220
- CAC refinanced ($42,585)
- Maple Bay Fire Hall refinanced ($8,320)

MUNICIPALITY OF NORTH Cowichan

Contributions to Reserve

	2020 Actual	2020 Budget	2021 Budget	Budget Increase	Budget % Increase
Equipment Replacement	5,161	1,175,180	1,191,810	16,630	1.4%
Cowichan Aquatic Centre	0	125,000	125,000	0	0.0%
Agriculture	0	30,000	30,000	0	0.0%
Infrastructure Replacement	0	250,000	250,000	0	0.0%
Quamichan Lake Water	233,642	67,000	100,000	33,000	49.3%
IT Capital Reserve	0	62,000	240,000	178,000	287.1%
Insurance/Legal Reserve	0	50,000	50,000	0	0.0%
Climate Action/Energy	0	157,700	163,900	6,200	3.9%
Total	238,803	1,916,880	2,150,710	233,830	12.2%

MUNICIPALITY OF NORTH Cowichan

Municipality of North Cowichan

2021 – 2025 Capital Expenditure Program

March 23, 2021

Sources of Financing

- Capital projects are financed through a variety of sources including:
  - General Revenue
  - Gas Tax Revenue
  - Appropriated Surplus
  - Reserve Funds
  - COVID Restart Reserve
  - Development Cost Charges
  - Government Grants
  - Other Contributions/Cost Sharing Arrangements
  - Debt
- Only general revenue is funded directly from property taxes

MUNICIPALITY OF NORTH Cowichan

Property taxes are one source of funding for capital

- *2021 Capital Budget $46.3m*
- *Property Taxes (target $4.8 million – recommended 15% of Property Taxes)*
  - *2021 Proposed Budget - $3,454,200 (10.7%) – COVID 19 Recovery Budget*
  - *2020 Budget - $2,787,200 (9.0%) – COVID 19 Recovery Budget*
  - *2019 Budget - $3,716,600 (12.4%)*
- *In April 2020 Council gave direction to defer the Revenue, Tax and Budget Policy to move capital towards sustainable level of 15% to provide financial relief to taxpayers during the COVID 19 pandemic. In June 2020 Council gave direction to extend the deferral of the Revenue, Tax and Budget Policy through 2021 as well.*

MUNICIPALITY OF NORTH Cowichan

Capital Expenditure – Summary

	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
General Government	117,500	125,000	68,000	10,000	10,000	10,000
Municipal Property Improvements	1,086,000	2,585,300	2,300,000	300,000	500,000	1,625,000
Information Technology	420,185	456,400	220,000	305,000	247,000	405,000
Community Development	1,732,440	1,629,510	950,000	500,000	500,000	500,000
Protective Services: Police & Other	5,100,000	27,100,000	20,900,000	-	-	-
Protective Services: Fire	1,053,600	1,731,700	1,150,000	550,000	1,150,000	470,000
Forestry	-	-	-	55,000	-	-
Transportation	7,770,900	7,907,680	3,649,200	4,474,410	4,544,160	4,615,250
Parks & Recreation	3,753,660	4,782,090	1,067,000	1,135,000	1,310,000	1,310,000
Total	21,034,285	46,317,680	30,304,200	7,329,410	8,261,160	8,935,250

MUNICIPALITY OF NORTH Cowichan

2020-2025 Capital Funding Summary

	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
General Revenue	2,787,200	3,454,155	3,289,200	3,965,410	4,393,160	5,567,250
Gas Tax Revenues	1,104,000	1,104,000	1,163,000	1,163,000	1,222,000	1,222,000
Appropriated Surplus	5,997,535	4,065,370	200,000	-	-	-
Reserve Funds	3,452,261	4,034,656	2,340,000	1,789,000	2,334,000	1,834,000
Development Cost Charges	96,000	-	100,000	100,000	-	-
Grants	3,444,200	4,672,544	312,000	312,000	312,000	312,000
Other Contributions/Cost Sharing	153,089	386,955	-	-	-	-
Debenture Debt	4,000,000	28,600,000	22,900,000	-	-	-
Total Sources of Financing	21,034,285	46,317,680	30,304,200	7,329,410	8,261,160	8,935,250

MUNICIPALITY OF NORTH Cowichan

2021 Tax Supported Capital

Total Capital Expenditure Plan for 2021 - $46,317,680

Office Equipment and Furniture	10,000
Municipal Building Maintenance	300,000
Information Services	127,000
Fire Halls	215,000
Transportation - P/W and Eng. Capital	70,000
Transportation - Roads	1,574,193
Drainage Capital	494,500
Parks and Recreation	663,462
	3,454,155

MUNICIPALITY OF NORTH Cowichan

Reserve Fund Balances

	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020 (Prelim)
Affordable Housing	0	22,081	39,497	42,918	75,244
Agriculture	161,894	193,142	226,779	265,031	270,144
Chemainus Parking	151,379	152,547	155,419	167,137	170,362
Energy Use/Emissions Reduction	197,966	348,593	398,762	494,610	496,237
Forest	1,773,911	1,864,667	2,012,439	2,145,499	2,186,895
Gas Tax Reserve	100,340	201,114	104,901	1,641,753	1,673,430
Gravel Pits	433,606	474,363	490,996	523,702	533,807
Infrastructure Replacement	250,000	501,928	761,380	1,028,913	1,298,765
Land Sales	138,257	1,232,543	4,146,465	4,217,773	4,215,180
Local Area Service	881,380	752,833	882,701	1,019,924	1,039,603
Machinery and Equipment	2,675,089	2,982,186	3,030,045	3,558,998	3,333,872
Maple Bay Sewer	87,420	88,094	89,753	91,820	93,592
Park Development	197,931	212,218	216,215	221,194	225,461
Parkland Purchase	377,377	405,359	442,143	553,755	620,452
Quamichan Lake	0	0	0	52,511	85,023
Recreation Facilities	784,201	863,910	996,470	1,169,136	1,191,694
Self-Insurance	117,726	118,634	120,868	123,652	126,037
	$ 8,328,477	$ 10,414,212	$ 14,114,833	$ 17,318,326	$ 17,635,798

MUNICIPALITY OF NORTH Cowichan

2021-2025 Municipal Property Improvements

	2020 Budget	2021 Budget	2022 Budget	2023 Budget	2024 Budget	2025 Budget
Municipal Hall HVAC	200,000	200,000	-	-	-	-
Energy Projects	156,000	-	-	-	-	-
Crofton Fire Hall	200,000	1,700,000	2,000,000	-	-	-
Public Works Building	200,000	200,000	-	-	200,000	1,200,000
Building Maintenance	330,000	485,300	300,000	300,000	300,000	425,000
Total	1,086,00	2,585,300	2,300,000	300,000	500,000	1,625,000

Sources of Financing

General Revenue	305,000	300,000	300,000	300,000	500,000	1,625,000
Appropriated Surplus	625,000	785,300	-	-	-	-
CAEP Fund	156,000	-	-	-	-	-
Debenture Debt	-	1,500,000	2,000,000	-	-	-
Total Sources of Financing	1,086,000	2,585,300	2,300,000	300,000	500,000	1,625,000

MUNICIPALITY OF NORTH Cowichan

2021-2025 Information Technology

	2020 Budget	2021 Budget	2022 Budget	2023 Budget	2024 Budget	2025 Budget
Sharepoint/Document Manager	35,968	-	-	-	-	-
Enterprise Software	95,477	113,200	30,000	30,000	30,000	30,000
Server Upgrades	200,702	136,400	40,000	25,000	15,000	340,000
Council A/V Equip	-	22,500	-	50,000	12,000	-
Website Replacement	-	-	40,000	80,000	-	-
Network Equipment Replacement	43,038	130,000	5,000	65,000	155,000	5,000
Telephone System Replacement	-	-	70,000	55,000	-	-
GIS Upgrade	-	-	35,000	-	35,000	-
Printing Device Replacements	45,000	54,300	-	-	-	30,000
Total	420,185	456,400	220,000	305,000	247,000	405,000

MUNICIPALITY OF NORTH Cowichan

2021-2025 Information Technology Financing

	2020 Budget	2021 Budget	2022 Budget	2023 Budget	2024 Budget	2025 Budget
General Revenue	300,000	127,000	215,000	300,000	242,000	400,000
IT Reserve	-	-	2,500	5,000	5,000	5,000
COVID Reserve	-	60,000	2,500	-	-	-
Appropriated Surplus	120,185	269,400	-	-	-	-
Total Sources of Financing	420,185	456,400	220,000	305,000	2472,000	405,000

MUNICIPALITY OF NORTH Cowichan

2021-2025 Community Development

	2020 Budget	2021 Budget	2022 Budget	2023 Budget	2024 Budget	2025 Budget
Develop Parking Lot - Library	146,440	146,440	-	-	-	-
Chemainus Boardwalk	100,000	-	-	-	-	-
Crofton Waterfront / Boat Launch	30,000	-	500,000	500,000	500,000	500,000
Maple Bay Wharf / Waterfront	-	50,000	450,000	-	-	-
Sportsplex Field House	1,456,000	1,433,070	-	-	-	-
Total	1,732,440	1,629,510	950,000	500,000	500,000	500,000

Sources of Financing

Grants	1,067,200	1,050,654	-	-	-	-
Other Contributions	293,900	293,900	-	-	-	-
Chemainus Offsite Parking	50,000	50,000	-	-	-	-
Sale of Land Reserve	321,340	234,956	950,000	500,000	500,000	500,000
Total Sources of Financing	1,732,440	1,629,510	950,000	500,000	500,000	500,000

MUNICIPALITY OF NORTH Cowichan

2021-2025 Police & Other

	2020 Budget	2021 Budget	2022 Budget	2023 Budget	2024 Budget	2025 Budget
Security Fencing	50,000	-	-	-	-	-
New Detachment - Construction	5,050,000	27,100,000	20,900,000	-	-	-
Total	5,100,000	27,100,000	20,900,000	-	-	-

Sources of Financing

Appropriated Surplus	1,100,000	-	-	-	-	-
Debenture Debt	4,000,000	27,100,000	20,900,000	-	-	-
Total Sources of Financing	5,100,000	27,100,000	20,900,000	-	-	-

MUNICIPALITY OF NORTH Cowichan

2021-2025 Fire Protection

	2020 Budget	2021 Budget	2022 Budget	2023 Budget	2024 Budget	2025 Budget
Fire Fighting Equip	46,900	215,000	300,000	300,000	300,000	120,000
Maple Bay – Engine	85,000	-	-	-	-	350,000
Crofton – Engine/Rescue	85,000	-	-	250,000	-	-
Chemainus – Crew Cab	85,000	-	-	-	-	-
South End – Aerial/Pumpers	751,700	1,516,700	850,000	-	850,000	-
Total	1,053,600	1,731,700	1,150,000	550,000	1,150,000	470,000

Sources of Financing

General Revenue	28,700	215,000	300,000	300,000	300,000	120,000
Appropriated Surplus	18,200	-	-	-	-	-
Fire Truck Reserve	1,006,700	1,516,700	850,000	250,000	850,000	350,000
Total Sources of Financing	1,053,600	1,731,700	1,150,000	550,000	1,150,000	470,000

MUNICIPALITY OF NORTH Cowichan

2021-2025 Transportation

	2020 Budget	2021 Budget	2022 Budget	2023 Budget	2024 Budget	2025 Budget
Machinery & Equipment P/W	*1,125,000*	*1,088,000*	*477,000*	*979,000*	*979,000*	979,000
Office Equipment	30,000	10,000	10,000	10,000	10,000	10,000
Road Capital	*5,942,000*	*6,255,180*	*2,566,500*	*2,877,800*	*2,935,400*	*2,994,100*
Crosswalk Lighting	60,400	60,000	61,200	62,420	63,670	64,940
Drainage Capital	492,500	494,500	534,500	545,190	556,090	567,210
Street Light Replacement LED	16,000	-	-	-	-	-
Flood Control (Canada Ave PS)	105,000	-	-	-	-	-
Total	7,770,900	7,907,680	3,649,200	4,474,410	4,544,160	4,615,250

MUNICIPALITY OF NORTH Cowichan

2021-2025 Transportation Financing

	2020 Budget	2021 Budget	2022 Budget	2023 Budget	2024 Budget	2025 Budget
General Revenue	1,406,000	2,138,693	1,689,200	2,212,410	2,323,160	2,394,250
Gas Tax Revenue	1,104,000	1,104,000	1,163,000	1,163,000	1,222,000	1,222,000
Appropriated Surplus	3,918,900	2,643,462	200,000	-	-	-
Reserve – Equip Replace	1,125,000	1,088,000	477,000	979,000	979,000	979,000
DCC – Roads	96,000	-	100,000	100,000	-	-
Other Contributions	105,000	93,055	-	-	-	-
CAEP	16,000	-	-	-	-	-
Grants	-	840,470	20,000	20,000	20,000	20,000
Total Sources of Financing	7,770,900	7,907,680	3,649,200	4,474,410	4,799,160	4,615,250

MUNICIPALITY OF NORTH Cowichan

2021-2025 Parks & Recreation

	2020 Budget	2021 Budget	2022 Budget	2023 Budget	2024 Budget	2025 Budget
Parks and Trails Capital	477,150	1,871,880	577,000	662,000	812,000	812,000
Crofton Pool	20,000	-	-	-	-	-
Fuller Lake Arena	336,000	1,050,000	350,000	350,000	375,000	375,000
Cowichan Aquatic Centre	2,900,510	1,815,210	122,500	123,000	123,000	123,000
Cemetery	20,000	45,000	17,500	-	-	-
Total	3,753,660	4,782,090	1,067,000	1,135,000	1,310,000	1,310,000

Sources of Financing

General Revenue	737,500	663,462	775,000	843,000	1,018,000	1,018,000
Appropriated Surplus	195,250	367,208	-	-	-	-
Grants	2,377,000	2,781,420	-	-	-	-
Reserves and Other	443,910	970,000	292,000	292,000	292,000	292,000
Total Sources of Financing	3,753,660	4,782,090	1,067,000	1,135,000	1,310,000	1,310,000

MUNICIPALITY OF NORTH Cowichan

2021-2025 Trails

	2020 Budget	2021 Budget	2022 Budget	2023 Budget	2024 Budget	2025 Budget
Cross Trail	15,500	-	-	-	-	-
Way Finding	-	97,910	-	-	-	-
Mt Tzouhalem Parking Lot	-	173,760	-	-	-	-
Trail Development	15,000	577,500	400,000	492,000	492,000	492,000
Crofton Seawalk Lighting	64,650	64,000	32,000	-	-	-
Total	95,150	913,170	432,000	492,000	492,000	492,000

Sources of Financing

General Revenue	55,000	108,000	432,000	492,000	492,000	492,000
Appropriated Surplus	24,650	64,000	-	-	-	-
Grants	-	741,170	-	-	-	-
Forest Legacy (Cross Trail)	15,500	-	-	-	-	-
Total Sources of Financing	95,150	913,170	432,000	492,000	492,000	492,000

MUNICIPALITY OF NORTH Cowichan

2021-2025 Fuller Lake Arena

	2020 Budget	2021 Budget	2022 Budget	2023 Budget	2024 Budget	2025 Budget
Re-Roof	100,000	870,000	-	-	-	-
Board Replacement	-		-	-	150,000	150,000
Facility Lighting	100,000	-	-	-	-	-
Parking Lot Renewal	85,000	-	-	-	-	-
Fitness Room Upgrades	-	-	35,000	-	-	-
Dehumidifier Upgrade, DHW Upgrade	-	150,000	115,000	-	-	-
Other Capital	51,000	30,000	200,000	375,000	225,000	225,000
Total	336,000	1,050,000	350,000	375,000	375,000	375,000

Sources of Financing

General Revenue	185,000	330,000	350,000	375,000	375,000	375,000
Appropriated Surplus	51,000	-	-	-	-	-
Grants	-	-	-	-	-	-
Reserves	100,000	720,000	-	-	-	-
Total Sources of Financing	336,000	1,050,000	350,000	375,000	375,000	375,000

MUNICIPALITY OF NORTH Cowichan

2021-2025 Cowichan Aquatic Centre

	2020 Budget	2021 Budget	2022 Budget	2023 Budget	2024 Budget	2025 Budget
Fitness Expansion	2,705,410	-	-	-	-	-
Fitness Equipment	22,500	22,500	22,500	23,000	23,000	23,000
Replace Vehicle	30,000	-	-	-	-	-
Security System Upgrade	72,600	-	-	-	-	-
Equipment	24,500	35,000	22,500	-	-	-
Re-Roof	-	1,700,000	-	-	-	-
Other	45,500	57,710	77,500	100,000	100,000	100,000
Total	2,900,510	1,815,210	122,500	123,000	123,000	123,000

Sources of Financing

General Revenue	122,500	57,500	122,500	123,000	123,000	123,000
Appropriated Surplus	72,600	57,710	-	-	-	-
Reserve	280,321	-	-	-	-	-
City of Duncan	48,089	-	-	-	-	-
Grants	2,377,000	1,700,000	-	-	-	-
Total Sources of Financing	2,900,510	1,815,210	122,500	123,000	123,000	123,000

MUNICIPALITY OF NORTH Cowichan

Recommendation

Recommendation:

- That Committee of the Whole recommend that Council approve in principle the 2021 Operating Budget and 2021-2025 Capital Expenditure Plan as presented to the Committee of the Whole on March 23, 2021 and direct staff to prepare the 2021-2025 Financial Plan Bylaw.

MUNICIPALITY OF NORTH Cowichan

Report

MUNICIPALITY OF NORTH Cowichan

Date	March 31, 2021	File:	
To	Council		
From	Michelle Martineau, Manager, Legislative Services	Endorsed:	
Subject	**De-Centralizing Forest Management on Vancouver Island & Coastal BC Resolution**		

Purpose

The Union of BC Municipalities (UBCM) is seeking an amendment from North Cowichan Council on the resolution titled: De-Centralizing Forest Management on Vancouver Island & Coastal BC, as UBCM considers it too regional to be considered by the membership.

Background

At the February 9, 2021 Committee of the Whole, staff inquired of Council if they wished to submit any resolutions to the Association of Vancouver Island and Coastal Communities (AVICC) Executive for consideration at the 2021 virtual convention. Included at that time was the resolution submitted by Councillor Douglas on the De-Centralizing Forest Management on Vancouver Island and Coastal BC.

Councillor Douglas' resolution was subsequently endorsed by Council at the February 17, 2021 regular meeting and submitted to AVICC as worded below:

> IT WAS MOVED AND SECONDED:
> That Council refer the following resolution to the Association of Vancouver Island Coastal Communities for consideration at the 2021 Virtual AGM and Convention:
>
> WHEREAS the forest sector in British Columbia has been on a steady decline in recent decades, with dozens of mill closures, thousands of middle class jobs lost, and once-thriving rural communities experiencing severe economic decline;
>
> AND WHEREAS many communities across British Columbia and globally have demonstrated that when local people are empowered to manage public forests and other resources through community forest licenses, regional trusts and other community-based governance models, they can enhance environmental sustainability and climate change resilience, provide stable and fulfilling employment, improve equity and fairness, and advance meaningful reconciliation with Indigenous peoples;
>
> AND WHEREAS the region of Vancouver Island, Sunshine Coast, Powell River, the North Coast and the Central Coast ("Vancouver Island and the Coast") would be well-suited for a pilot for a de-centralized forestry management model because of its strong record of success in community-based forestry management, exceptional local interest in forest practices, and history in land use planning at a macro-regional level;
>
> THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Association of Vancouver Island and Coastal Communities

(AVICC) call on the Province of British Columbia move to establish a de-centralized forest management model for Vancouver Island and the Coast that will empower local people in decision-making, and, as a first step, appoint a Forester General for the region who will undertake the following actions:

- Consult with First Nations, local communities, labour unions, industry, small business, and the broader public on current challenges with the Vancouver Island and Coast forest sector;
- Carry out region-specific analyses of the opportunities to increase employment and value-added manufacturing, restrict raw log exports, improve environmental sustainability, enhance climate change resilience, expand recreation and tourism, and advance meaningful reconciliation with First Nations;
- Develop a regional land use plan for Vancouver Island and the Coast based on broad consultations; and
- Recommend next steps for empowering Vancouver Island and the Coast in the management of forestry and related resources. CARRIED

On March 26, 2021 staff was contacted by UBCM and advised that the resolution had been deemed only relevant to one region and that it may not be considered by the full UBMC membership at the UBCM Convention in September. That was followed up with an email from the UBCM Resolutions and Policy Analyst, Jamee Justason, on March 31, 2021 (see Attachment 1). Ms. Justason advised that the Resolutions Committee would be noting that the resolution should not be admitted for debate and that it was nearly identical to the resolution submitted in 2020 (see pages 153-161 for more information regarding Section C resolutions). Included with that email were proposed amendments to the resolution that would give it a more province-wide focus and make it more relevant to the UBCM membership (see Attachment 2).

Although the AVICC Convention did not occur in 2020, all resolutions received were submitted to UBCM by the AVICC Executive (see Attachment 3).

Discussion

Section 2 (f) of the UBCM Writing Guidelines for Resolutions states that resolutions should focus on issues that are province-wide, that the issue identified in the resolution should be relevant to other local governments across the province (see Attachment 4).

UBCM's proposed amendments are intended to give the resolution a more province-wide focus by striking out any reference to Vancouver Island and the Coast so that it is more relevant it is more likely to be endorsed by the UBCM membership.

The wording of the resolution to be presented at the AVICC Convention in May 2021 will depend on whether Council chooses to amend the resolution now or leave the original wording. If Council decides to continue with the original wording in the resolution, there is the chance that the resolution may be amended when on floor at the AVICC Convention to change the focus from regional to province wide, however, if endorsed as presented, it is unlikely that it will be considered at the UBCM Convention and will be placed in Section C when received by UBCM, as what occurred in 2020 (see Attachment 5).

Options

1. Amend the resolution to remove any regional references.

   That Council amend their February 17, 2021 resolution to the Association of Vancouver Island Coastal Communities for consideration at the 2021 Virtual AGM and Convention related to the De-Centralizing Forest Management on Vancouver Island & Coastal BC by striking out:
   - paragraph three in its entirety;
   - "*for Vancouver Island and the Coast*" and "*for the region*" in paragraph four;
   - "*Vancouver Island and Coast*" under the first bullet point in paragraph four;
   - "*region specific*" under the second bullet point in paragraph four;
   - "*for Vancouver Island and the Coast*" under the third bullet point in paragraph four; and
   - "*for empowering Vancouver Island and the Coast*" under the last bullet point in paragraph four.

2. Maintain the original wording in the resolution (no motion required).

Implications

If the resolution is left as originally worded, it is likely that it will be placed in Section C again and will not be considered by the UBCM membership.

Recommendation

Staff have not provided a recommendation.

Attachment(s):
1. 2021-03-31 Email from UBCM
2. North Cowichan 2021 Resolution - Proposed Amendment
3. 2020-04-29 AVICC Letter (De-centralized Forest Management Model for Vancouver Island and the Coast)
4. UBCM Writing Guidelines for Resolutions
5. 2020 UBCM Annual Convention – Resolutions Decisions

Michelle Martineau

From: Jamee Justason <jjustason@ubcm.ca>
Sent: Wednesday, March 31, 2021 8:36 AM
To: Michelle Martineau
Subject: Seeking an amendment from North Cowichan on resolution titled: De-Centralizing Forest Management on Vancouver Island & Coastal BC
Attachments: North Cowichan 2021 Resolution - Proposed Amendment.pdf

Hello Michelle,

It was good to chat with you.

UBCM is seeking an amendment from North Cowichan titled: De-Centralizing Forest Management on Vancouver Island & Coastal BC. See the attached PDF.

As written, this resolution would not be admitted for debate at the UBCM Convention in September, as it is deemed too regional in nature. The Resolutions Committee Comments would note this. As well, the Comments would note that North Cowichan submitted a nearly identical resolution in 2020, which UBCM deemed too regional. The resolution 2020-C16 was placed it in category C, where it was not considered by the membership. As the new 2021 resolution is once again focused on forestry only on Vancouver Island, unless amended, UBCM will consider it too regional.

The purpose of giving a resolution a more province-wide focus is to make it more relevant to the wider UBCM membership. If it is more relevant it is more likely to be endorsed by the UBCM membership. Endorsed resolutions are conveyed to the Province (or other order of government) where they will be considered and possibly acted upon. That is a positive outcome for the sponsors of resolutions.

Thank you,
Jamee

Jamee Justason
Resolutions and Policy Analyst
Pronouns: she/her

Union of BC Municipalities
60 – 10551 Shellbridge Way
Richmond, BC V6X 2W9
Phone: 604-270-8226 Ext. 100
Email: jjustason@ubcm.ca
Website: www.ubcm.ca

DE-CENTRALIZING FOREST MANAGEMENT ON VANCOUVER ISLAND & COASTAL BC

Current Wording:

Whereas the forest sector in British Columbia has been on a steady decline in recent decades, with dozens of mill closures, thousands of middle-class jobs lost, and once-thriving rural communities experiencing severe economic decline;

And whereas many communities across British Columbia and globally have demonstrated that when local people are empowered to manage public forests and other resources through community forest licenses, regional trusts and other community-based governance models, they can enhance environmental sustainability and climate change resilience, provide stable and fulfilling employment, improve equity and fairness, and advance meaningful reconciliation with Indigenous peoples;

And whereas the region of Vancouver Island, Sunshine Coast, Powell River, the North Coast and the Central Coast ("Vancouver Island and the Coast") would be well-suited for a pilot for a de-centralized forestry management model because of its strong record of success in community-based forestry management, exceptional local interest in forest practices, and history in land use planning at a macro-regional level:

Therefore be it resolved that AVICC call on the Province of British Columbia move to establish a de-centralized forest management model for Vancouver Island and the Coast that will empower local people in decision-making, and, as a first step, appoint a Forester General for the region who will undertake the following actions:

- Consult with First Nations, local communities, labour unions, industry, small business, and the broader public on current challenges with the Vancouver Island and Coast forest sector;
- Carry out region-specific analyses of the opportunities to increase employment and value-added manufacturing, restrict raw log exports, improve environmental sustainability, enhance climate change resilience, expand recreation and tourism, and advance meaningful reconciliation with First Nations;
- Develop a regional land use plan for Vancouver Island and the Coast based on broad consultations; and

Recommend next steps for empowering Vancouver Island and the Coast in the management of forestry and related resources.

Proposed Amendment:

DE-CENTRALIZING FOREST MANAGEMENT ~~ON VANCOUVER ISLAND & COASTAL BC~~

Whereas the forest sector in British Columbia has been on a steady decline in recent decades, with dozens of mill closures, thousands of middle-class jobs lost, and once-thriving rural communities experiencing severe economic decline;

And whereas many communities across British Columbia and globally have demonstrated that when local people are empowered to manage public forests and other resources through community forest licenses, regional trusts and other community-based governance models, they can enhance environmental sustainability and climate change resilience, provide stable and fulfilling employment, improve equity and fairness, and advance meaningful reconciliation with Indigenous peoples;

~~And whereas the region of Vancouver Island, Sunshine Coast, Powell River, the North Coast and the Central Coast ("Vancouver Island and the Coast") would be well-suited for a pilot for a de-centralized forestry management model because of its strong record of success in community-based forestry management, exceptional local interest in forest practices, and history in land use planning at a macro-regional level:~~

Therefore be it resolved that AVICC and UBCM call on the Province of British Columbia move to establish a de-centralized forest management model ~~for Vancouver Island and the Coast~~ that will empower local people in decision-making, and, as a first step, appoint a Forester General ~~for the region~~ who will undertake the following actions:

- Consult with First Nations, local communities, labour unions, industry, small business, and the broader public on current challenges with the ~~Vancouver Island and Coast~~ forest sector;
- Carry out ~~region-specific~~ analyses of the opportunities to increase employment and value-added manufacturing, restrict raw log exports, improve environmental sustainability, enhance climate change resilience, expand

recreation and tourism, and advance meaningful reconciliation with First Nations;

- Develop a regional land use plan ~~for Vancouver Island and the Coast~~ based on broad consultations; and
- Recommend next steps ~~for empowering Vancouver Island and the Coast~~ in the management of forestry and related resources.

April 29, 2020

District of North Cowichan
7030 Trans-Canada Highway
Duncan, BC V9L 6A1

Dear Mayor Siebring,

Re: De-centralized Forest Management Model for Vancouver Island & the Coast

This is to confirm that at its April 22nd meeting, the AVICC Executive Committee reviewed the resolution received from the District of North Cowichan asking the AVICC to:

Call on the Province of British Columbia to move to establish a de-centralized forest management model for the region of Vancouver Island, Sunshine Coast, Powell River, the North Coast and the Central Coast ("Vancouver Island and the Coast"), and, as a first step, appoint a Forester General for the region who will undertake the following actions:

- *Consult with local communities, workers, businesses, First Nations and the broader public on current challenges with the forest sector;*
- *Carry out an analysis of the opportunities to increase employment and value-add, restrict raw log exports, improve environmental sustainability, and advance reconciliation with First Nations;*
- *Develop a regional land use plan for Vancouver Island and the Coast based on citizen input; and*
- *Recommend next steps for empowering Vancouver Island and the Coast in the management of forestry and related resources, including potentially establishing a Regional Standing Committee of the BC Legislature composed of the MLAs for Vancouver Island and the Coast.*

In a normal year, the resolution would have been debated by members at the 2020 AGM & Convention, and this would have informed the AVICC on whether there was support from members for the proposal.

525 Government St, Victoria, BC V8V 0A8
Email: avicc@ubcm.ca • Tel: 250-356-5122 • Fax: 250-356-5119 • www.avicc.ca

Although the April Convention had to be cancelled due to COVID-19, the Executive Committee is still planning to hold an AGM in some format later this year, and potentially as part of the UBCM Convention. Given this, and the fact that the Province is currently occupied with dealing with the pandemic response, the Executive Committee has decided to refer the resolution to the next AGM for review with AVICC members.

Thank you for submitting this resolution, and we look forward to connecting with North Cowichan representatives along with other AVICC members at the next AGM.

Yours sincerely,

Councillor Carl Jensen,
President, AVICC

525 Government St, Victoria, BC V8V 0A8
Email: avicc@ubcm.ca • Tel: 250-356-5122 • Fax: 250-356-5119 • www.avicc.ca

Writing Guidelines for Resolutions

1. Structure of a Resolution

All resolutions consist of a preamble and an enactment. The preamble describes the issue and the enactment outlines the action being requested. A resolution should answer three questions:

(a) What is the problem?
(b) What is causing the problem?
(c) What is the best way to solve the problem?

Preamble

The preamble begins with "WHEREAS", and is a concise sentence about the nature of the problem or the reason for the request. It answers questions (a) and (b) above, stating the problem and its cause, and should explain, clearly and briefly, the reasons for the resolution.

The preamble should contain no more than two "WHEREAS" clauses. If explaining the problem requires more than two clauses, then provide supporting documents to describe the problem more fully. Do not add extra clauses.

Enactment

The enactment begins with the phrase "THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED", and is a concise sentence that answers question (c) above, suggesting the best way to solve the problem. The enactment should propose a specific action by UBCM.

Keep the enactment as short as possible, and clearly describe the action being requested. The wording should leave no doubt about the proposed action.

2. Writing Tips

(a) Address one subject in the text of the resolution.

Since your community seeks to influence attitudes and inspire action, limit the scope of a resolution to one specific subject or issue. Delegates will not support a resolution if it is too complex for them to understand quickly.

(b) Use simple, action-oriented language and avoid ambiguous terms.

Explain the situation briefly and state the desired action clearly. Delegates can then consider the resolution without having to parse complicated wording or vague concepts.

(c) Provide factual background information.

Even a carefully written resolution may not be able to convey the full scope of the problem or the action being requested. Provide factual background information to ensure that the resolution is understood fully.

Submit background information in one of the following two formats:

i. Supplementary Memo
A brief, one-page memo from the sponsor local government, which outlines the background that led to the adoption of the resolution by the council or board.

ii. Council/Board Report
A report on the subject matter, presented to council or board in conjunction with the resolution. If it is not possible to send the entire report, then extract the essential information and submit it with the resolution.

Resolutions submitted without background information will not be considered until the sponsor has provided adequate background information.

(d) Construct a brief, descriptive title.

A title identifies the intent of the resolution and is usually drawn from the "enactment clause". For ease of printing in the Resolutions Book and for clarity, the title should be no more than three or four words.

(e) Check legislative references for accuracy.

Where necessary, identify:

- the correct legislation, including the title of the act or regulation
- the correct jurisdictional responsibility (responsible ministry or department, and whether it is provincial or federal)

(f) Focus on issues that are province-wide.

The issue identified in the resolution should be relevant to other local governments across the province. This will support productive debate and assist UBCM to represent your concern effectively to the provincial or federal government on behalf of all BC regional districts and municipalities.

2020 UBCM Annual Convention – Resolutions Decisions

The following is a summary of the resolutions debate at the 2020 UBCM Annual Convention. Official results will appear in the Convention Minutes.

Extraordinary Resolution (ER)

ER1	Extraordinary Resolution to Amend the UBCM Bylaws to Provide the UBCM Executive with the Authority to Enable a Virtual Annual General Meeting and Annual Convention	*Endorsed*

Special Resolutions (SR)

SR1	New Emergency Management Legislation	*Endorsed*
SR2	Cannabis Taxation Revenue Sharing	*Endorsed*
SR3	Local Government Election Financing	*Endorsed*
SR4	Recovery and Rebuild of Public Transit in BC	*Endorsed*
SR5	Recovery Through Infrastructure Stimulus Funding	*Endorsed*
SR6	Broadband Internet	*Endorsed*
SR7	Local Economic Recovery in Response to the Pandemic	*Endorsed*
SR8	Mental Health, Addictions and Poisoned Drug Supply	*Endorsed*
SR9	Multi-Residential Insurance Rates	*Endorsed*
SR10	Minimal Barrier Shelter Standards	*Endorsed*
SR11	*Police Act* Review	*Endorsed*

Endorse Block (EB) of Resolutions

The Endorse Block of resolutions were introduced as a block. The block included resolutions EB1 to EB87. Resolutions EB16, EB19 and EB37 were pulled from the block, and will be considered individually by the UBCM Executive following Convention.

EB1	Regulation of Soft Plastics and Other Packaging Materials	Endorsed
EB2	Police Based Victim Services	Endorsed
EB3	Restorative Justice Funding	Endorsed
EB4	Costs of Keeping Prisoners	Endorsed
EB5	Police Services Model of Funding	Endorsed
EB6	Funding for Rural Community Policing Resources	Endorsed
EB7	Funding for Rural Crime Reduction/Prevention Group	Endorsed
EB8	Emergency SOS Auto 911 Call Smartphone Technology	Endorsed
EB9	Sustainable Funding for Highway Rescue Services	Endorsed
EB10	Abandoned Vehicles	Endorsed

EB11	Extending Life of Fire Apparatus	Endorsed
EB12	Collaborative Wildfire Mitigation	Endorsed
EB13	Regional Geo-Hazards	Endorsed
EB14	Provincial Funding for Dike Upgrades	Endorsed
EB15	Dike Improvement District	Endorsed
EB17	Transportation Services for Rural and Remote Communities	Endorsed
EB18	Secondary Rural Road Maintenance	Endorsed
EB20	Practical Measures for Resource Roads	Endorsed
EB21	Access to Provincial Parks	Endorsed
EB22	Maintenance of Forest Service Roads	Endorsed
EB23	Funding for Local Government Infrastructure Upgrades as a Result of Highway Construction	Endorsed
EB24	Active Transportation Infrastructure – Highways Projects	Endorsed
EB25	Continued Expansion of Trans-Canada Highway #1	Endorsed
EB26	Increase *Zero-Emission Vehicle Act* Interim Targets	Endorsed
EB27	Zero-Emission Vehicle Mandate for Medium- and Heavy-Duty Vehicles	Endorsed
EB28	Electric Vehicle Charging Stations	Endorsed
EB29	Clean Vehicle Initiatives	Endorsed
EB30	Emissions Reduction for Ride Hailing Fleets	Endorsed
EB31	Accessibility Guarantee for Passenger Directed Vehicles	Endorsed
EB32	Accessibility Funding for Passenger Directed Vehicles	Endorsed
EB33	Speculation and Vacancy Tax	Endorsed
EB34	Request to the Government of BC for Dedication of One Percent of PST to Local Governments	Endorsed
EB35	Gas Tax Funding	Endorsed
EB36	Gas Tax Funds	Endorsed
EB38	Ongoing Sustainable Grant Funding Model	Endorsed
EB39	Access to Infrastructure Grant Funding for Improvement Districts	Endorsed
EB40	Recreation Infrastructure Funding	Endorsed
EB41	Restoring Sustainable Provincial Library Funding Levels	Endorsed
EB42	Re-Examining Municipal Pension Plan Divestment	Endorsed
EB43	Grant-in-Lieu of Taxes Revision	Endorsed
EB44	Tax Land and Improvements Separately	Endorsed
EB45	Reassignment of Residential Based Short-Term Rentals to Class 6: Business and Other	Endorsed
EB46	Brownfield Taxation	Endorsed
EB47	Forest Harvesting Plans	Endorsed
EB48	Private Managed Forest Land Program Environment Values	Endorsed
EB49	Invasive Species Funding	Endorsed
EB50	Protection of British Columbia Watercourses from Invasive Aquatic Species	Endorsed
EB51	Sustainable Funding for Watershed Stewardship	Endorsed
EB52	Timely Review and Approvals - Section 11 *Water Sustainability Act*	Endorsed
EB53	Harmonize BC Plastics Action Plan and Strategy on Zero-Plastic Waste	Endorsed
EB54	ICI Packaging and Paper Products Recycling Regulation Amendment	Endorsed

EB55	Amend Recycling Regulation to Include Mattresses and Bulky Furniture	Endorsed
EB56	Extended Producer Responsibility	Endorsed
EB57	Expand Extended Producer Responsibility Programs	Endorsed
EB58	Provincial Tools for Building Energy Benchmarking	Endorsed
EB59	ICBC Data for GHG Reduction Efforts	Endorsed
EB60	Mandatory Signage for Bear Traps	Endorsed
EB61	Cumulative Effects of Land Use Decisions	Endorsed
EB62	Stormwater Management	Endorsed
EB63	Accretions	Endorsed
EB64	New Agricultural Land Commission Regulation	Endorsed
EB65	Private Land Logging	Endorsed
EB66	Working Forest Reserve	Endorsed
EB67	Forestry Economic Downturn	Endorsed
EB68	Ranching Concerns	Endorsed
EB69	Funding for High Speed Internet Services in Small Communities	Endorsed
EB70	Internet and Cell Phone Service	Endorsed
EB71	BC Hydro Service Provisions	Endorsed
EB72	Geothermal Exploratory Drilling Regulations	Endorsed
EB73	Business Licensing Authority for Regional Districts	Endorsed
EB74	Ambulance Services	Endorsed
EB75	Increased Funding for Health Connections Patient Transport	Endorsed
EB76	Provide Universal No-Cost Coverage of Prescription Contraception	Endorsed
EB77	Provision of Free Prescription Contraception in BC	Endorsed
EB78	Provincial Action to Enhance Food Security During Emergencies	Endorsed
EB79	Mental Healthcare Services	Endorsed
EB80	Supportive Housing for Complex Needs	Endorsed
EB81	Housing Supports for Adults with Developmental Disabilities	Endorsed
EB82	Provincial Government Funding Increase for BC Housing	Endorsed
EB83	Coordinated Strategy to Address Liveaboards	Endorsed
EB84	Supporting Tenants and Local Governments in the Delivery of Tenant Assistance	Endorsed
EB85	Expanded Authority to Notify Renters Impacted by Renovations	Endorsed
EB86	Home Owner Grant Program in Electoral Areas	Endorsed
EB87	Assistance with Step Code Implementation	Endorsed

Not Endorse Block (NEB) of Resolutions

The Not Endorse Block of resolutions were introduced as a block. The block included resolutions NEB1 to NEB16. Resolutions NEB4 and NEB6 were pulled from the block, and will be considered individually by the UBCM Executive following Convention.

NEB1	Online Gaming	Not Endorsed
NEB2	School Bus Safety	Not Endorsed
NEB3	Election Finance Tax Credits	Not Endorsed

NEB5	Broadband Infrastructure Taxation	Not Endorsed
NEB7	Varied Tax Rate for the Residential Class	Not Endorsed
NEB8	Greenhouse Gas Limits for New Buildings	Not Endorsed
NEB9	Access to Emergency Health Services	Not Endorsed
NEB10	First Responder Program in British Columbia	Not Endorsed
NEB11	Coroners	Not Endorsed
NEB12	Community Social Needs Resourcing Strategies	Not Endorsed
NEB13	Social Development Specialist Funding	Not Endorsed
NEB14	Amend the *Residential Tenancy Act* to Strengthen Maintenance Standards	Not Endorsed
NEB15	Establish Standards for Building Electrification, Heat Pumps and Water Heaters	Not Endorsed
NEB16	Voting Rights for Alternate Directors	Not Endorsed

No Recommendation (NR)

NR1	Predominant Purpose of Bylaw	Endorsed
NR2	Amend Section 8(6) of the *Community Charter* to Include "Prohibit" in Relation to Business	Endorsed
NR3	Legislative Clarification on Temporary Use Permits	Not Endorsed
NR4	Green Roofs	Not Endorsed
NR5	Criminal Record Checks for Local Government Elected Officials	Endorsed
NR6	Independent Office of Integrity for Local Government	Refer to UBCM Executive
NR7	Equitable Police Funding Model	Refer to UBCM Executive
NR8	Solving RCMP Municipal Resource Pressures	Refer to UBCM Executive
NR9	Expanded Role for RCMP Auxiliary Program	Refer to UBCM Executive
NR10	Increased Funding for Provincial Police Resources Along the Trans-Canada Highway Corridor	Refer to UBCM Executive
NR11	Review Fines for Speeding	Refer to UBCM Executive
NR12	Bylaw Enforcement Officers Enforcing Speed Limits in School Zones	Refer to UBCM Executive
NR13	Encouraging Personal Accountability in Emergency Management	Refer to UBCM Executive
NR14	Emergency Mitigation and Preparedness	Refer to UBCM Executive
NR15	Emergency Interagency Communication System	Refer to UBCM Executive
NR16	Flood Risk Mitigation Through Green Infrastructure and Natural Assets	Refer to UBCM Executive
NR17	BC Cannabis Regulation – Section 37	Refer to UBCM Executive
NR18	Needle Retrieval and Disposal Program	Refer to UBCM Executive
NR19	Collection of Blood Samples for Police Drug Testing	Refer to UBCM Executive
NR20	Private Liquor Store Moratorium	Refer to UBCM Executive
NR21	Vegetation Control Along Powerlines	Refer to UBCM Executive
NR22	Amend the *Jury Act*	Refer to UBCM Executive
NR23	Development Cost Charges Bylaw and Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure	Refer to UBCM Executive
NR24	Active Transportation	Refer to UBCM Executive
NR25	Congestion Pricing	Refer to UBCM Executive
NR26	Partnerships for Fare-Free Public Transit	Refer to UBCM Executive
NR27	Benefits of Public Car Insurance	Refer to UBCM Executive
NR28	Accessible Parking Campaign	Refer to UBCM Executive
NR29	Requirement for Trust Accounts for Commercial Properties	Refer to UBCM Executive
NR30	Places of Public Worship Tax Exemptions	Refer to UBCM Executive
NR31	Taxation of Group 4 Independent Schools	Refer to UBCM Executive

NR32	Employer Health Tax	Refer to UBCM Executive
NR33	Local Government Price Index	Refer to UBCM Executive
NR34	Enumeration and Consideration of Seasonal Populations	Refer to UBCM Executive
NR35	Odometer Readings for Community Greenhouse Gas Emissions Tracking	Refer to UBCM Executive
NR36	Reducing Truck Pollution on Residential-Adjacent Commercial Transport (Trucking Routes)	Refer to UBCM Executive
NR37	Provincial Enabling of Property Assessed Clean Energy (PACE) Financing by Local Governments	Refer to UBCM Executive
NR38	GHG Reduction Legislation	Refer to UBCM Executive
NR39	Engaging Northern and Remote Communities on New Programs	Refer to UBCM Executive
NR40	Creating One Planet Communities	Refer to UBCM Executive
NR41	Closing Federal Corporate Tax Loopholes to Fund Climate-Related Adaptation and Mitigation	Refer to UBCM Executive
NR42	Venting Index Requirement and Efficiency of Burns	Refer to UBCM Executive
NR43	BC Water Resources	Refer to UBCM Executive
NR44	Water Conservation and Grey Water Use	Refer to UBCM Executive
NR45	Support for a British Columbia Coastal Protection Strategy	Refer to UBCM Executive
NR46	Marine Debris	Refer to UBCM Executive
NR47	Home Heating Oil Spill Prevention	Refer to UBCM Executive
NR48	Standards and Labelling of “Flushable” Wipes	Refer to UBCM Executive
NR49	Funding for Clean Renewable Energy Projects	Refer to UBCM Executive
NR50	Use of High Efficiency Electrical Appliances Incentives	Refer to UBCM Executive
NR51	Facilitating Clean Energy Retrofits	Refer to UBCM Executive
NR52	Home Emissions and Energy Rating and Labelling	Refer to UBCM Executive
NR53	Hazardous Materials Recycling Regulation	Refer to UBCM Executive
NR54	A Provincial Extended Producer Responsibility Program for Cigarettes and Vaping Products	Refer to UBCM Executive
NR55	Cardboard Recycling	Refer to UBCM Executive
NR56	Recovering Costs for the Illegal Disposal of Wildlife Carcasses	Refer to UBCM Executive
NR57	Invasive Species Act	Refer to UBCM Executive
NR58	Agriculture Land Reserve (ALR) Enabling Subdivision into Smaller Affordable Lots	Refer to UBCM Executive
NR59	Cannabis Enforcement and Regulation within the Agricultural Land Reserve	Refer to UBCM Executive
NR60	Sustainable Development Goals	Refer to UBCM Executive
NR61	Indigenous Peoples’ Representation	Refer to UBCM Executive
NR62	Re-Evaluation of Outpatient Model	Refer to UBCM Executive
NR63	Sharing Payments from Opioid Class Action Lawsuits	Refer to UBCM Executive
NR64	A Strategy for Rural Economic Development Through Health Care	Refer to UBCM Executive
NR65	Helipad Hospital Construction	Refer to UBCM Executive
NR66	Farmers’ Markets as Essential Services During Emergencies	Refer to UBCM Executive
NR67	Free Menstrual Products in Civic Facilities	Refer to UBCM Executive
NR68	Early Childhood Education Labour Force Shortage	Refer to UBCM Executive
NR69	Vacancy Tax	Refer to UBCM Executive
NR70	Declaring a Homelessness Emergency: Making an Emergency Plan to Drastically Reduce Homelessness	Refer to UBCM Executive
NR71	Tiny Home Legitimization	Refer to UBCM Executive
NR72	Safety Requirements for Existing Secondary Suites	Refer to UBCM Executive
NR73	BC Building Code	Refer to UBCM Executive
NR74	Recommending Change of *Strata Property Act* and *Residential Tenancy Act* to Disallow Discrimination Against Pet Owners	Refer to UBCM Executive
NR75	Streamline Building Officials Certification Process	Refer to UBCM Executive

NR76	Whistleblower Legislation	Refer to UBCM Executive
NR77	Community to Community Forum Grants	Refer to UBCM Executive
NR78	Citizenship Ceremonies	Refer to UBCM Executive
NR79	Post-Secondary Education in Rural Communities	Refer to UBCM Executive

Section C – Part 2

C1	Funding to Implement *Emergency Program Act* Changes	Not Admitted for Debate
C2	Cannabis Retail Tax Revenue Sharing	Not Admitted for Debate
C3	Provincial Support for Victims' Services	Not Admitted for Debate
C4	Funding Model for Incarceration of Prisoners	Not Admitted for Debate
C5	Election Finance Contribution Limits	Not Admitted for Debate
C6	Election Finance Reporting	Not Admitted for Debate
C7	Fair Access to Funding for Regional Public Transit	Not Admitted for Debate
C8	Provincial Support for Libraries	Not Admitted for Debate
C9	Library Funding	Not Admitted for Debate
C10	Municipal Solid Waste – ICI EPR Program	Not Admitted for Debate
C11	Regulate Sale and Installation of Fossil Fuel Infrastructure	Not Admitted for Debate
C12	Addressing Increases to Condominium Insurance	Not Admitted for Debate
C13	Creation of Risk-Sharing Model that Returns Strata Premiums and Owner Deductibles to 2019 Levels	Not Admitted for Debate
C14	Amend the *Residential Tenancy Act* to Reduce "No Pet" Clauses	Not Admitted for Debate

Section C – Part 3

C15	Keep of Prisoner Program	Not Admitted for Debate
C16	De-Centralizing Forest Management	Not Admitted for Debate
C17	Re-Evaluation of Outpatient Model	Not Admitted for Debate

COWICHAN VALLEY
School District

FROM THE OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY TREASURER

March 19, 2021

Mayor and Council
Municipality of North Cowichan
7030 Trans-Canada Highway
Duncan, BC
V9L 6A1

Via email: terri.brennan@northcowichan.ca

Dear Mayor Siebring and Council:

Re: Bell McKinnon Local Area Plan (BMLAP)

The Board of Education of School District No. 79 (Cowichan Valley) (the Board) are aware that on September 5, 2018 North Cowichan Council approved the Bell McKinnon Local Area Plan (BMLAP). The Official Community Plan (OCP) places the Bell McKinnon area within the Urban Containment Boundaries designating it as a growth area. The creation of the BMLAP included the designation of a future school site that includes a portion of 6644 Bell McKinnon Road.

The Board reviewed the development application submitted by West Urban Developments that includes a plan to build 481 housing units at 6644 Bell McKinnon Road. The Board's long-range facilities plan strongly indicates that a future school will be required within the Bell McKinnon corridor to accommodate the future growth. It is in the Board's interest that the property remain zoned for a future school purpose.

At the Closed Board Meeting of March 2, 2021, the Board of Education of School District passed the following motion:

> *"That the Board of Education of School District No. 79 (Cowichan Valley) directs staff to write a letter to the Municipality of North Cowichan's Mayor and Council indicating we wish to ask them to honour the Local Area Plan, and that the site identified as a potential school site is in the interest of the School District for acquiring."*

Yours truly,

Jason Sandquist

Jason Sandquist, CPA, CGA, BAccS
Secretary-Treasurer

cc: Ted Swabey, Chief Administrative Officer, Municipality of North Cowichan
Rob Conway, Director, Planning and Building, Municipality of North Cowichan

To: Chris Hutton, MCIP, RPP
Community Planning Coordinator
Development and Engineering Services | Planning
Municipality of North Cowichan
chris.hutton@northcowichan.ca

From: Quamichan Watershed Stewardship Society (QWSS)

March 15, 2021

To respond to the following request from North Cowichan

"That Council seek the advice and recommendations from the following key stakeholders in relation to the land use policy development to be included in the revised Official Community Plan for North Cowichan, and ask that they provide their opinions on what they believe is necessary to achieve Council's goals of restoration and regeneration of the municipality's lakes, streams, estuaries and rivers, and of protecting biodiversity:

Thank you for the opportunity to participate in the land use policy development discussions in light of the impending OCP and the ongoing climate emergency. Our understanding from Dr. David Preikshot's report is that the Municipality of North Cowichan (MNC) is underway with the following tasks in the Quamichan Watershed:

1. Actively monitoring nutrient load, temperature and oxygen levels seasonally
2. Analyzing lake chemistry (including core sampling) to determine the course of best action in how to correct (phoslock, etc) excessive nutrient loads and imbalances.
3. Installation of test zeolite filters to reduce phosphate loading in 4 input streams and the results are forthcoming.

With regards in specific to the Quamichan Watershed, our recommendations are as follows:

1. North Cowichan would continue to actively engage stakeholders including but not limited to the Cowichan Tribes, the Cowichan Land Trust, the Fresh Water Fisheries Society, the Somenos Marsh Wildlife Society, Quamichan Lake Neighbourhood Association, QWSS, Rowing Canada and the Cowichan Estuary Restoration and Conservation Association through a combined future Quamichan Area Management Committee. This committee would provide a stakeholder mechanism to partner with the MNC to provide a cohesive voice for stakeholders.

2. To support riparian area restoration through invasive species removal, native re-plantings and riparian area public education via direct stakeholder volunteer participation, public engagement and educational materials distribution and other networking.

3. Stakeholder outreach to include the local agricultural community. Ideas include the creation of environmental farm plans to recycle/reuse some of the nutrients on existing farmland for the benefit of the farmer (lower fertilizer/transport costs) and thereby reducing potential run-off nutrient loading to the lake. These are ideas that already fall under the Provincial Nutrient Management Plan. To demonstrate the agricultural benefits, QWSS intends to partner with a local area farmer to install nutrient trapping belt zones (with limestone and zeolite already available through MNC).

4. Consider MNC arrangement/incentives to convert/purchase/exchange/create easements on private/farmland areas for both restoration where required and protection of riparian zones wetland ecosystem corridors to help reduce nutrient loading. Ideas also would include a natural areas protection tax incentive in exchange for conservation covenants.

5. To continue to support the MNC in the responsible management of run-off waters in new developments soon after site clearing and preparation but, prior to the construction phase. Support MNC planning initiatives including increased sewer hookups, bioswales, stormwater detention ponds, plantings, green spaces, more small footprint clusters/densely compacted developments.

6. To support biodiversity protection through the creation of ecosystem corridors (green and riparian) to allow interdependent flora, fauna and the associated watershed health to thrive. In coordination with the MNC Parks & Trails Masterplan to support the creation of interconnected footpaths, where appropriate, alongside ecosystem corridors and Quamichan Lake to allow for greater public appreciation and exposure to the importance of biodiversity and watershed health.

7. Regarding future Watershed Development and to reduce the amount of phosphorous entering the environment
   a) minimize small lot development in the watershed
   b) support access to municipal sewage systems within urban containment boundary
   c) promoting a minimum 30m riparian area setback for any development around lakes and waterways and the general enforcement (through RAPP) of Riparian regulations.

8. To support focused fine bubble aeration in critical and sensitive areas in Quamichan lake during the acute turn-over periods for fish refuges and to keep public use areas like Art Mann Park clean. This could have immediate impact for relatively low cost. Municipality can provide 3 phase wiring and site for a screw-type compressor. Both wind and currents transport algal blooms towards Art Mann Park. We are advised that aeration assists in algae bloom dispersal and the addition of oxygen aids in aerobic breakdown of organics and can strip CO2 and ammonia nitrogen out of the water.

9. To mitigate increasing seasonal drought, to support longer term projects for expanding fresh water reservoir storage volumes (Crofton Lake, Maple Mountain, Mt. Prevost etc) and the related potential for increasing water capacity for flushing during the summer months. This would also have the added benefit of maintaining flow in Quamichan Creek where cut-throat and coho currently reside.

10. To consider a phosphorus syphoning plan and related treatment facility where the principle is to remove higher phosphorus containing waters near the bottom of the lake (2x more phosphorus content compared to surface waters). This could run year round and during the summer the syphon could draw the water level down slightly over normal summer levels. Winter rain water would then dilute the sum total of phosphorus gradually over time. This would be a heavily involved Cowichan Tribes and Department of Fisheries project that could start small and scale up based on success.

Best Regards,

Per Dahlstrom, Jim Cosh, David Groves & Sarah Nelles
Quamichan Watershed Stewardship Society