



Corporate Services
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July 18, 2011
File No.: 0110-02

Mayor Sharon Shepherd & Council
City of Kelowna

Mayor Doug Findlater & Council
District of West Kelowna

Mayor James Baker & Council
District of Lake Country

Mayor Keith Fielding & Council
District of Peachland

Dear Mayors & Council:

Re: Regional Relations – Code of Conduct

Earlier this year, the Regional Board appointed a sub-committee to draft an internal and external Regional Relations Code of Conduct. The Board's Governance & Services Committee (made up of all members of the Board) reviewed the proposed documents and at its June 9th meeting and agreed to forward the external document to its member municipalities.

We ask that your Council review the attached Code of Conduct document "Proposed Resolution Regarding Relations between RDCO Board, Electoral Area Directors and Partner Municipalities" for review, comment and consideration of adoption by your municipality. Your appointed Regional District representative will be able to speak to the document at your Council meeting.

Thank you for your consideration. We look forward to your review and response.

Yours sincerely,


Harold Reay
Chief Administrative Officer

Encl.



**Proposed Resolution Regarding Relations between RDCO Board,
Electoral Area Directors and Partner Municipalities**

Whereas

The Regional District of Central Okanagan (RDCO) partners (electoral areas and municipalities) are connected to one another not only by a contractual, geographical, and statutory alignment, but also by a common interest in furthering the economic, social, and environmental health and well-being of the entire region; and

Whereas:

RDCO partners have a shared interest in ensuring the quality and effectiveness of the services they provide to, and/or receive from, the Regional District; and

Whereas:

Regional partners have been appointed or elected to the Regional Board to represent their citizen's interests;

THEREFORE be it resolved that:

In the interest of promoting the development and maintenance of effective working relationships between:

- (i) the elected representatives and staff of partner municipalities, and
- (ii) the RDCO Board and its staff, the following Code of Conduct is adopted:

CODE OF CONDUCT

- In their dealings with one another on regional matters, the partners and their staff, will seek to build positive working relationships characterised by:
 - respect for differences of opinion between stakeholders;
 - a problem-solving orientation;
 - openness to new information;
 - fostering of positive attitudes ; and
 - effective conflict management practices.
- During their consideration of RDCO plans, services, and resolutions, regional partners will attempt to reflect in their public comments, an appreciation of, and respect for, regional interests and policies, as well as local area interests and policies.
- Where conflict threatens to disrupt effective working relationships between the Regional District and a partner municipality, the following opportunities for conflict management will be explored:

Self-Management: evidenced by willingness on the part of the parties concerned to recognize the conflict and then address it constructively through discussion and negotiated resolution.

Invitation to Board Chair: the partner municipality will request the Board Chair to meet with representatives to discuss the issues of concern and seek a resolution.

Third Party Assistance: If, notwithstanding the foregoing options, conflicts continue to threaten effective working relationships, third party assistance will be engaged. Resources include, as appropriate: peers, CAOs, outside consultants, and ministry facilitators.

- Notwithstanding the foregoing, nothing in this document shall prevent an elected representative or regional partner from speaking against any Regional District plan, service, or resolution, or from requesting a Service Review under the provisions of the *Local Government Act and/or the Community Charter*.

June 21, 2011