

Re: Legislative Reform Initiative

I am writing to you on behalf of [regional district or municipality Board/Council] regarding the proposed reform of the *Local Government Act* (LGA), a topic that was considered in a panel discussion at the 2023 Union of BC Municipalities (UBCM) Annual Convention. I understand that the Regional District of Nanaimo is exploring the potential formation of a working group through the UBCM. This letter serves to express our support and encouragement for this.

A comprehensive review and reform of the *Local Government Act* has long been needed. Although the Ministry of Municipal Affairs has made significant incremental changes to the legislation, more substantial modernization of the LGA is required to provide municipalities and regional districts with sufficient tools and/or authority to meet their expanding responsibilities and challenges. In addition, the social, political, and economic environments that local governments operate within continue to evolve in areas such as climate change, environmental stewardship, and a recognition of the importance of First Nations' participation in regional governance. These changes should be reflected in modernized legislation.

[Regional district or municipality] supports the Regional District of Nanaimo's request that the UBCM Executive form a working group to steer this important initiative. We are eager to see this initiative continue momentum and support the creation of a process to organize and enable broad and inclusive consultation to work toward a modernized legislative scheme.