



Making a difference...together

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Chief Rob Thomas
Esquimalt Nation
1189 Kosapsum Crescent
Victoria, BC V9A 7K7
Via email: rob@esquimaltnation.ca ; Katie@esquimaltnation.ca

Dear Chief and Council:

RE: FIRST NATION INCLUSION IN REGIONAL GOVERNANCE

Following up from our presentation to your Nation, the Capital Regional District (CRD) Board has approved a number of bylaw changes to provide for the inclusion of First Nations elected representatives on CRD standing committees. First Nations have expressed a desire for an increased role in regional decision-making and this opportunity creates space for more inclusive discussions and First Nations involvement in CRD governance.

The approved bylaw changes create a flexible model of inclusion where First Nations elected representatives can formally participate and vote on items of interest at CRD standing committees. This is not meant to replace the need for ongoing government to government discussions but to offer another means to include First Nations at decision-making tables.

If you are interested in being involved, we request that your Nation designate an elected representative, and an alternate to sit on CRD Committees. Attached is a form to fill out with this information and a list of CRD standing committees currently proposed to include First Nations participation. Once we gather a list of names and contact information, we will be providing an orientation session outlining our regional governance structure which will also provide the opportunity to receive feedback and any additional questions or concerns you may have.

Please feel free to reach out to Erich Kelch at ekelch@crd.bc.ca or by phone at 250-893-7848 should you have any questions about this inclusive governance work. Staff could also offer a presentation to Chief and Council if that would be of further benefit. Thank you for your time and we look forward to continuing to build a respectful working relationship that serves the region.

Sincerely,

Colin Plant
Chair, Capital Regional District Board

Attachment: First Nations Member CRD Committee Appointment Form

cc: Katie Hooper, Administrator, Esquimalt Nation
Robert Lapham, CAO, Capital Regional District
Kristen Morley, GM Corporate Services, Capital Regional District



CRD standing committees

*meetings are on Wednesdays during the day

The CRD Board has amended its bylaws to create spaces for each Nation to appoint an elected representative to sit as a First Nation Member on CRD standing committees. It is a flexible model where First Nations can choose to attend only for items that may be of particular interest to them.

Please use this form to designate an elected First Nations member who could be the point of contact for the CRD to send committee agendas and details to in order to seek participation. The CRD would also like to host an orientation for those representatives who will be attending to share information about the process and to answer any questions that may come up.

If you could please list a contact and an alternate and send back to Erich at ekelch@crd.bc.ca

First Nation:

Name of appointed First Nation Member:

Contact email:

Contact phone:

Preferred method of communication:

Name of Alternate First Nation Member*:

Contact email:

Contact phone:

Preferred method of communication:

The Board remuneration policy recognizes the time commitment of First Nations representatives while serving on these committees and offers the following compensation in line with what is paid to CRD alternate directors, at \$110 per committee meeting attended, including expenses. Reimbursement for mileage at \$0.50/ kilometre is available for any travel required to attend meetings.

Once appointment is confirmed, and prior to attending the first meeting, Members and Alternates will be provided with forms required by CRD Payroll department to confirm direct deposit information for remuneration.

**Alternate First Nation Members may attend in the absence of the appointed member.*

CRD standing committees

*meetings are on Wednesdays during the day

Environmental Service Committee

***meets at 1:30pm on the 3rd Wednesday of each month (monthly)**

- Regional solid waste function
- Environmental Protection, monitoring and compliance
- Community Climate Action and Resource recovery opportunities

First Nations Relations Committee

***meets at 1:30pm on the 4th Wednesday every 3 months (quarterly)**

- Initiate and engage in programs and activities that strengthen relationships between the CRD and First Nations within the region;
- Make recommendations to the Board on CRD's initiatives relating to Reconciliation

Planning and Protective Services Committee

*** meets at 10:00am on the 3rd Wednesday of each month (monthly)**

- Fire Dispatch; Community Health Service; Community planning, roundtable environmental monitoring; Regional Emergency Program Support
- Regional Growth Management;

Regional Parks Committee

***meets at 10:00am on the 4th Wednesday of each month (monthly)**

- Regional parks and trails, including land acquisition, management, and operations

Governance Committee –

***meets at 10:00am on the 1st Wednesday of every other month (bi-monthly)**

- Board, committee and commission governance and meeting procedures
- Corporate administration and intergovernmental relations
- Recommendations to the Board for advocacy to provincial and federal governments

Finance Committee

***meets at 10:00am on the 1st Wednesday of every other month (bi-monthly)**

- Corporate budget, financial monitoring, reporting and forecasting.
- Financial impacts related to strategic Board priorities and initiatives

Transportation Committee

***meets at 10:00am on the 3rd Wednesday of every other month (bi-monthly)**

- Regional transportation matters, receives reports from Traffic Safety Commission
- Advocacy to other levels of government on regional transportation issues
- Advocacy to Victoria Regional Transit Commission

CRD standing committees

*meetings are on Wednesdays during the day

Hospitals and Housing Committee

***meets at 1:30pm on the 1st Wednesday of each month (monthly)**

- Makes recommendations to CRD Board, Capital Regional Hospital District and Capital Regional Housing Corporation regarding:
 - Land Banking and Housing; community health planning; implementation of housing affordability models; options for procurement of health care facilities; Real estate matters relating to health care facilities and housing

Electoral Areas Committee

***meets at 11:00am on the 2nd Wednesday each month (monthly)**

- Oversees services in the Electoral areas Juan De Fuca, Salt Spring and Southern Gulf Islands including:
 - Building inspection, Bylaw enforcement, Animal Control, Grants-in-aid, soil deposit and removal, storm water quality, Fire protection, Local emergency management and Local economic development