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**REPORT TO CAPITAL REGIONAL DISTRICT BOARD  
MEETING OF WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 11, 2024**

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**SUBJECT**     **Municipal Regional District Tax (MRDT) Letter of Support for Town of Sidney**

**ISSUE SUMMARY**

To respond to a request for a letter of support to implement MRDT in the Town of Sidney.

**BACKGROUND**

The Municipal Regional District Tax (MRDT) is an extension of the provincial sales tax to provide funding for local tourism marketing. In accordance with the MRDT program requirements, a municipality must provide evidence that the regional district has been consulted and whether it supports or opposes the imposition of the tax.

The CRD received a letter from Sidney Business Improvement Area (BIA) Society requesting a letter of support to levy an MRDT of 3% in the Town of Sidney for 5 years beginning in 2025 (Appendix A). The Sidney BIA has drafted a strategy to identify how the levy will support tourism in the Town of Sidney over those 5 years. A summary of the five-year tourism plan is attached as Appendix B. A copy of the letter of support from the Town of Sidney is attached as Appendix C.

**ALTERNATIVES**

*Alternative 1*

That the Capital Regional District Board provide a letter of support for the Sidney Business Improvement Area Society to levy a 3% Municipal Regional District Tax (MRDT) in the Town of Sidney from 2025 to 2030.

*Alternative 2*

That this report be referred back to staff for additional information.

**CONCLUSION**

The Municipal Regional District Tax (MRDT) is an extension of the provincial sales tax to provide funding for local tourism marketing. The CRD received a letter from Sidney Business Improvement Area Society requesting a letter of support to levy an MRDT of 3% in the Town of Sidney for 5 years beginning in 2025.

**RECOMMENDATION**

That the Capital Regional District Board provide a letter of support for the Sidney Business Improvement Area Society to levy a 3% Municipal Regional District Tax (MRDT) in the Town of Sidney from 2025 to 2030.

Submitted by:	Marlene Lagoa, MPA, Manager, Legislative Services & Deputy Corporate Officer
Concurrence:	Kristen Morley, J.D., General Manager, Corporate Services & Corporate Officer
Concurrence:	Ted Robbins, B. Sc., C. Tech., Chief Administrative Officer

**ATTACHMENT(S)**

- Appendix A: Request Letter from Sidney BIA Society (November 7, 2024)
- Appendix B: Sidney Five-Year Tourism Plan Summary
- Appendix C: Town of Sidney – Letter of Support (December 3, 2024)