

Meeting Minutes

Capital Regional District Board

Wednesday, March 13, 2019

11:00 AM

6th Floor Boardroom
625 Fisgard Street
Victoria, BC

Special Meeting

PRESENT: C. Plant (Chair), D. Blackwell (Vice-Chair), S. Brice, B. Desjardins, F. Haynes, L. Helps, M. Hicks, G. Holman, D. Howe, B. Isitt (11:02), J. Loveday (11:12), C. McNeil-Smith, R. Martin, R. Mersereau, K. Murdoch, G. Orr, J. Ranns, D. Screech, L. Seaton, N. Taylor, B. Thompson (for R. Windsor), K. Williams, G. Young

STAFF: R. Lapham, Chief Administrative Officer; N. Chan, Chief Financial Officer; L. Hutcheson, General Manager, Parks and Environmental Services; S. Bagh, Acting General Manager, Planning and Protective Services; K. Morley, General Manager, Corporate Services; T. Robbins, General Manager, Integrated Water Services; R. Smith, Senior Manager, Environmental Resource Management; R. Lachance, Senior Manager, Financial Services; S. Hallatt, Manager, Aboriginal Initiatives; S. Byrch, Manager, Information Services; E. Gorman, Deputy Corporate Officer; S. Closson, Committee Clerk (Training), P. Perna, Committee Clerk (Recorder)

REGRETS: Director Tait

The meeting was called to order at 11:00 am.

1. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

MOVED by Director Helps, **SECONDED** by Director Taylor,
That the agenda for the March 13, 2019 Special Capital Regional District Board meeting be approved as amended as circulated to add item 4.8 to the Consent Agenda: Electoral Areas Rural Status brought forward from the March 13, 2019 Electoral Areas Committee meeting.
CARRIED

2. REPORT OF THE CHAIR

The Chair reported on the following:

- on the receipt of over 100 pieces of public correspondence regarding the Protection of the Sooke Hills Wilderness Regional Park
- the CRD was recognized as one of the top employers in BC
- advocating for the CRD to have a seat in the membership at the Big Cities Mayors' Caucus (BCMC)
- the well attended opening of the new 911 centre, which was built on time and under budget
- his telephone call with Premier Horgan addressing and announcing the CRD's desire to participate in the South Island Transportation Strategy
- acknowledge and recognition of the Town of View Royal for declaring a climate

emergency, working toward carbon neutrality by 2030, making carbon neutrality a priority, and incorporating this into the Town's Strategic Plan and encouraged other municipalities to address this at their council meetings
- advocating for respectful discussions on the myriad of important topics that come forward

3. PRESENTATIONS/DELEGATIONS

3.1 Presentations

There were no presentations.

3.2 Delegations

- 3.2.1. [19-318](#)** Delegation: Gord Baird, Resident of CRD and Councillor, District of Highlands Re: Agenda Items 6.10: Landfill Gas Utilization - Alternatives and 6.11: Organics Processing - Regional Capacity
G. Baird spoke in regards to Landfill Gas Utilization Alternatives and Organics Processing - Regional Capacity and considerations needed to ensure zero carbon by 2050.
- 3.2.2. [19-320](#)** Delegation: Ann Baird Re: Agenda Items 6.10: Landfill Gas Utilization - Alternatives and 6.11: Organics Processing - Regional Capacity
A. Baird spoke in regards to Landfill Gas Utilization Alternatives and Organics Processing - Regional Capacity and looking at living systems.
- 3.2.3. [19-321](#)** Delegation: Chester Phillips, Victoria Compost and Conservation Society Re: Agenda Item 6.11: Organics Processing - Regional Capacity
C. Phillips was not present at this time.
- 3.2.4. [19-322](#)** Delegation: Eric Doherty, Better Transit Alliance of Greater Victoria Re: Agenda Item 8.1. Motion with Notice: Transportation Improvements on Highway 1 and Highway 14 Corridors
E. Doherty spoke in support of the Motion with Notice: Transportation Improvements on Highway 1 and Highway 14 Corridors.
- 3.2.5. [19-323](#)** Delegation: Torrance Coste, Wilderness Committee Re: Agenda Item 6.8. Protection of Sooke Hills Wilderness Regional Park
T. Coste spoke in support of Protection of Sooke Hills Wilderness Regional Park and opposed a new highway.
- 3.2.6. [19-324](#)** Delegation: Alison Spriggs Re: Agenda Item 6.8. Protection of Sooke Hills Wilderness Regional Park
A. Spriggs spoke in support of Protection of Sooke Hills Wilderness Regional Park.
- 3.2.7. [19-326](#)** Delegation: Ray Zimmerman, Sea to Sea Greenbelt Society Re: Agenda

Item 6.8. Protection of Sooke Hills Wilderness Regional Park

R. Zimmerman spoke in support of Protection of Sooke Hills Wilderness Regional Park.

3.2.8. [19-327](#)

Delegation: Larry Wartels, Bus Riders Union Re: Agenda Item 6.8. Protection of Sooke Hills Wilderness Regional Park

L. Wartels provided a video and spoke in support for the Protection of Sooke Hills Wilderness Regional Park.

3.2.9. [19-328](#)

Delegation: John H Treleaven, Grumpy Taxpayers of Greater Victoria Re: Agenda Item 6.9. Climate Emergency Declaration - Capital Regional District Response

J. Treleaven spoke in regards to the Climate Emergency Declaration and the governance of this declaration.

3.2.3. [19-321](#)

Delegation: Chester Phillips, Victoria Compost and Conservation Society Re: Agenda Item 6.11: Organics Processing - Regional Capacity

C. Phillips spoke in regards to Food Security and organics processing - regional capacity. He spoke on anaerobic digestion and composting.

4. CONSENT AGENDA

MOVED by Director Howe, **SECONDED** by Director Isitt,
That the consent agenda be approved as amended to add item 4.8 Electoral Areas Rural Status and to remove item 4.6. and place for discussion as item 6.4.

(b)

CARRIED

4.1. [19-049](#)

Terms of Reference - Transportation Committee

That the Transportation Committee recommend to the CRD Board that:
The Transportation Committee Terms of Reference be adopted, as amended to remove the reference to an EA Director from committee membership.

4.2. [19-146](#)

Motion with Notice from District of Highlands - Vegetation Management - UBCM's Community Resiliency Investment Grant (February 14, 2019)

Whereas the CRD Board Priorities include:

1. Nurturing partnerships and effective governance, leveraging resources, and extending its impact to more communities to achieve greater outcomes.
2. Working collaboratively to address multi-jurisdictional issues that impact the wellbeing of the region's residents.
3. Exploring more comprehensive regional coordination of emergency services, including an assessment of regional hazards, risks and vulnerabilities

And Whereas tree canopy death, wildfire risk, flood mitigation and carbon sequestration are pressing issues in the CRD.

And Whereas UBCM's Community Resiliency Investment Program (2020 Intake) offers 100 % funding of \$100,000.00 per each participating local government and First Nation to mitigate wildfire risk and allows flexibility for fuel and vegetation management across all land designations, including First Nations land and private land.

Therefore Be It Resolved that CRD staff be directed to apply for UBCM's Community Resiliency Investment Program Grant (2020 Intake) as a regional project on behalf of interested local member governments and First Nations to address tree canopy death with respect to fire risk, flood mitigation, and carbon sequestration.

And further that:

1. The CRD convene a meeting of interested parties to develop the scope and parameters for the grant application submission and that;
2. The CRD draws upon professionals working within related fields to help inform and guide the development of the scope for the application.

- 4.3. [19-160](#) Mount Parke and Saint John Point Regional Parks Management Plans - Initial Public Participation Report

That this report be received for information.

- 4.4. [19-199](#) Archaeology Policies and Procedures

This report be received for information.

- 4.5. [19-225](#) CRD External Grants Update

That the Capital Regional District External Grants Update be received for information.

- 4.7. [19-226](#) Grants in Aid

That the following grant-in-aid applications be approved:

1. Island Pathways: \$3,000
2. Pender Organic Garden Society: \$961.39
3. SGI Community Resource Centre: \$4,000
4. Mayne Island Conservancy: \$5,000
5. Galiano Activity Centre Society: \$5,000
6. SGI Community Resource Centre: \$5,000
7. Sooke Food Bank: \$1,000

- 4.8. 19-371 Electoral Areas Rural Status

That the Capital Regional District Board Chair send a letter to MLA Olson to request clarification of the current position of the Province regarding the rural definition and confirm inclusion in the Island Coastal Economic Trust (ICET) program.

5. ADMINISTRATION REPORTS

- 5.1. [19-231](#) 2019 Financial Plan Process

N. Chan provided an overview of the report.

Discussion ensued on the following:

- 2019 budget requisitions for improvements to the E&N trail
- lighting and improvement requirements on the Galloping Goose Trail

- funding for one-time supplementary projects

**MOVED by Director Screech, SECONDED by Director Helps,
That the Capital Regional District Board receive this report for information.
CARRIED**

5.2. [19-302](#) Creation of Two Units of Affordable Housing

R. Lapham provided an overview of the report.

Discussion ensued on the following:

- financial risks involved and processes taken on homeowners reselling at a loss, a profit, or if they go in default.
- housing agreements in regards to properties as rental units
- expanding this option to municipalities to own and operate other units in complexes for mixed income buildings

**MOVED by Director Isitt, SECONDED by Director Helps,
That Bylaw No. 4289, "Resale Control and Housing Agreement Bylaw (Parry Street), 2019", be introduced and read a first, second, and third time.
CARRIED**

**MOVED by Director Isitt, SECONDED by Director Helps,
That Bylaw No. 4289 be adopted.
CARRIED**

6. REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

First Nations Relations Committee

6.1. [19-202](#) 2019 Service Plan Amendment for the First Nations Relations Division

S. Hallett provided an overview of the Task Force being proposed.

**MOVED by Director Orr, SECONDED by Director Taylor,
That the amendments to the 2019 Service Plan be approved to undertake the work on the approved Task Force recommendations with the following additions to be considered at 2019 final budget approval:**

- a) An ongoing annual increase of \$25,000 to host a Forum of All Councils;**
- b) A 1.0 permanent FTE position for administrative support clerk;**
- c) An ongoing annual increase of \$7,500 for meeting expenses associated with the First Nations Relations Committee;**
- d) A 0.5 permanent FTE increase to the existing 0.5 FTE Community Liaison position (from half time to full time);**
- e) An ongoing annual increase of \$50,000 to undertake special projects related to Task Force recommendations, beginning with conducting an Indigenous Economic Development Feasibility Study.**

CARRIED

Governance and Finance Committee

6.2. [19-207](#) Corporate Asset Management Policy and Strategy

Discussion ensued on the consideration of Natural Asset Management.

**MOVED by Director Brice, SECONDED by Director Taylor,
That the Corporate Asset Management Policy and Strategy be adopted and
that staff be directed to complete the phase of work involving service
planning and report back, via the Governance and Finance Committee, on
cost implications.**

CARRIED

6.3. [19-230](#)

Highlights from Provincial Budget (Verbal)

N. Chan provided a verbal report from the 2019 Provincial Budget and spoke to a handout highlighting key points in the provincial budget, which is on file in the Legislative Services department.

Discussion ensued on the following:

- the CleanBC program to encourage zero emission vehicles, reduction of GHG emissions, and to make homes and buildings more energy efficient
- increased funding for BC Transit, access to dollars for transit, and transit initiatives being contemplated
- the rent bank no-interest loans for low-income individuals at risk of losing their home due to a short term financial crisis

**MOVED by Director Brice, SECONDED by Director Murdoch,
That the verbal report be received for information.**

CARRIED

The meeting recessed at 12:24 pm.

The meeting reconvened at 12:52 pm.

6.4. [19-286](#)

**Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act (FOIPPA) 2018
Overview**

K. Morley provided an overview of the report.

Discussion ensued on the steps taken for requests for release of data and policy developments on making items public to lower the requests for information.

**MOVED by Director Screech, SECONDED by Director Murdoch,
That the report be received for information.**

CARRIED

6.4.(b) [19-242](#)

Procedures for Notice of Motion & Motion With Notice

Discussion ensued on the following:

- how Motions with Notice are released to the public and the media
- concerns with the public questioning other directors before they are aware of the topic

**MOVED by Director Screech, SECONDED by Director Seaton,
That the Procedures for Notice of Motion & Motion With Notice report be referred
back to the Governance and Finance Committee meeting.**

CARRIED

OPPOSED: Young

Juan De Fuca Land Use Committee

- 6.5. [19-112](#) Zoning Amendment Application for Lot 9, Section 129, Sooke District, Plan VIP67208 - 590 Seedtree Road

MOVED by Director Hicks, **SECONDED** by Director Blackwell,

a) That the referral of proposed Bylaw No. 4265 directed by the Juan de Fuca Land Use Committee to the East Sooke Advisory Planning Commission; the Juan de Fuca Electoral Area Parks and Recreation Advisory Commission; appropriate CRD departments; BC Hydro; District of Sooke; Island Health; Ministry of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations and Rural Development - Archaeology Branch; Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure; RCMP; Scia'new First Nation; Sooke School District #62; and T'Sou-ke First Nation be approved and the comments received.

b) That proposed Bylaw No. 4265, "Juan de Fuca Land Use Bylaw, 1992, Amendment Bylaw No. 138, 2018" be introduced and read a first time and read a second time; and

c) That in accordance with the provisions of Section 469 of the Local Government Act, the Director for the Juan de Fuca Electoral Area, or Alternate Director, be delegated authority to hold a Public Hearing with respect to Bylaw No. 4265.

CARRIED

- 6.6. [19-241](#) Public Hearing Report on Bylaw No. 4259, "Juan de Fuca Land Use Bylaw, 1992, Amendment Bylaw No. 136, 2018"

MOVED by Director Hicks, **SECONDED** by Director Blackwell,

a) That the minutes that form the Report of the Public Hearing for Bylaw No. 4259, which is certified as a fair and accurate summary of the representations that were made at the Public Hearing held on February 6, 2019, for Bylaw No. 4259, "Juan de Fuca Land Use Bylaw, 1992, Amendment Bylaw No. 136, 2018", be received; and

b) That Bylaw No. 4259 be read a third time and adopted.

CARRIED

Parks and Environment Committee

- 6.7. [19-228](#) Protection of Sooke Hills Wilderness Regional Park

Discussion ensued on the following:

- an emergency route rather than a new highway
- safe alternatives when there are issues on the highway
- looking at the current road, Niagara Main, to serve as an alternate route
- the legal agreement made between the CRD and the Province in regards to legally being bound to release park land at the province's request
- the definition of a highway per the Transportation Act

MOVED by Director Isitt, **SECONDED** by Director Helps,

That the Capital Regional District Board:

1. Places itself on record opposing highway infrastructure development in Sooke Hills Wilderness Regional Park.

2. Requests that the Chair write, on behalf of the Board, to the Premier of British Columbia, copying the Ministers responsible for Environment and Transportation as well as Members of the Legislative Assembly representing

constituencies on Vancouver Island, advising the Provincial government that the Board has no interest in pursuing highway infrastructure development in the Sooke Hills Wilderness Regional Park.

3. Request the Chair of the CRD Board request a meeting with the Premier to stress the urgency of the situation for residents and the CRD Board.

MOVED by Director Blackwell, **SECONDED** by Director Seaton,
That the motion be deferred to allow the process that has begun by the Province with regard to emergency measures, and not a full blown road, to come back after the Province's process unfolds.

DEFEATED

OPPOSED: Brice, Desjardins, Haynes, Helps, Hicks, Holman, Isitt, Loveday, Mersereau, Orr, Taylor, Williams, Thompson, and Young

MOVED by Director Orr, **SECONDED** by Director Helps,
That the main motion be amended in 1. to add the word "new" after the wording..."on record opposing" and add "open to the public" after the wording "...highway infrastructure development".

CARRIED

OPPOSED: Desjardins, Isitt, Loveday, Williams, and Young

MOVED by Director Orr, **SECONDED** by Director Helps,
That the main motion be amended in 2. to add the word "new" after the wording "...that the Board has no interest in pursuing" and add "open to the public" after the wording "...highway infrastructure development".

Carried

OPPOSED: Desjardins, Helps, Isitt, Loveday, McNeil-Smith, Mersereau, Taylor, Williams, and Young

The question was called on the main motion as amended.

MOVED by Director Isitt, **SECONDED** by Director Helps,
That the Capital Regional District Board:

1. Places itself on record opposing new highway infrastructure development open to the public in Sooke Hills Wilderness Regional Park.
2. Requests that the Chair write, on behalf of the Board, to the Premier of British Columbia, copying the Ministers responsible for Environment and Transportation as well as Members of the Legislative Assembly representing constituencies on Vancouver Island, advising the Provincial government that the Board has no interest in pursuing new highway infrastructure development open to the public in the Sooke Hills Wilderness Regional Park.
3. Request the Chair of the CRD Board request a meeting with the Premier to stress the urgency of the situation for residents and the CRD Board.

CARRIED

6.8. [19-193](#)

Climate Emergency Declaration - Capital Regional District Response

MOVED by Director Isitt, **SECONDED** by Director Helps,
That a \$95,000 increase in requisition funding be considered as part of the 2019 final budget approval for the CRD Climate Action service, to undertake a regional greenhouse gas emissions inventory and modelling exercise and pursue a BC Hydro grant for staff support and, if successful, amend the staff establishment chart to hire a Community Energy Manager for a two-year term.

CARRIED

6.9. [19-191](#) Landfill Gas Utilization - Alternatives

L. Hutcheson provided an overview of processing landfill gas and how this works with the climate action plan.

Discussion ensued on the impacts of streamlining and reducing costs when using one and/or the other of anaerobic digestion.

MOVED by Director Isitt, SECONDED by Director Helps,

- 1. That staff be directed to pursue negotiations with Fortis and determine rates in order to further flesh out the return on investment for a potential Hartland Renewable Natural Gas project.**
- 2. That staff be directed to report back to Committee once initial conversations with Fortis have taken place and with the potential of green power revenues as soon as possible after the Comprehensive Review of BC Hydro has been completed.**
- 3. That staff Include an estimate of GHG impacts of the expanded electrical power generation option and RNG conversion.**
- 4. That the Environmental Resource Management Capital Budget of \$23.7 million for the Hartland landfill gas utilization project be recommended for consideration in the 2019 budget approval process, subject to all funding sources being finalized.**

CARRIED

OPPOSED: Desjardins, Isitt, and Williams

6.10. [19-192](#) Organics Processing - Regional Capacity

Discussion ensued on the following:

- anaerobic digester negatives including odour concerns, contents must be wet, and what to do with the liquids
- the City of Surrey's plant that is indoors and operates without smell
- viability of soil content to be used for agriculture and land use
- the nutrient content created through anaerobic digestion
- market options for the digested product

MOVED by Director Screech, SECONDED by Director Hicks,

- 1. That staff proceed with next steps of the process for developing an anaerobic digestion facility at Hartland Landfill;**
- 2. That this staff report be referred to the Solid Waste Advisory Committee for feedback on recommendation and next steps; and**
- 3. That staff return to the Board with the results of the next steps prior to proceeding with procurement.**

MOVED by Director Brice, SECONDED by Director Helps,

That the report be referred back to the Parks and Environment Committee for further discussion.

MOVED by Director Isitt, SECONDED by Director Helps,

That the motion be amended to add "and that staff to report back on options regarding composting".

Carried

The question was called on the motion as amended.

MOVED by Director Brice, **SECONDED** by Director Desjardins,
That the report be referred back to the Parks and Environment Committee for
further discussion and and that staff to report back on options regarding
composting.

CARRIED

MOVED by Director Helps, **SECONDED** by Director McNeil-Smith,
That the meeting continue beyond the three (3) hour time limit on the
meeting.

CARRIED

Regional Water Supply Commission

- 6.11.** [19-239](#) Motion from Regional Water Supply Commission: Protection of Greater
Victoria Water Supply Area

Director Blackwell left the meeting at 3:05 pm.

MOVED by Director Mersereau, **SECONDED** by Director Haynes,
1. That the Capital Regional District Board assume the same position as the
Regional Water Supply Commission and accordingly place itself on record as
opposing such development outlined by the CRD Regional Water Supply
Commission.

2. That the CRD Board Chair write on behalf of the CRD Board, to the Premier
of British Columbia, copying the ministers responsible for Environment and
Transportation as well as Members of the Legislative Assembly representing
constituencies on Vancouver Island, advising the Provincial government that
the CRD has no interest in pursuing highway infrastructure development in
the Greater Victoria Water Supply Area or the Drinking Water Protection
Zone.

CARRIED

7. BYLAWS

- 7.1.** [19-308](#) Adoption of Bylaw No. 4260, "Juan de Fuca Land Use Bylaw, 1992,
Amendment Bylaw No. 137, 2018".

MOVED by Director Hicks, **SECONDED** by Director Martin,
That Bylaw No. 4260 be adopted.

CARRIED

8. MOTIONS FOR WHICH NOTICE HAS BEEN GIVEN

- 8.1.** [19-296](#) Motion with Notice: Transportation Improvements on Highway 1 and
Highway 14 Corridors (Director Isitt)

MOVED by Director Holman, **SECONDED** by Director Isitt,

1. Urges the Provincial Government to implement measures to address
congestion, safety and emergency closure concerns along the Highway 1 and
Highway 14 corridors, including but not limited to:

- (a) Establishment of public transit-only shoulder lanes on Highway 1 from Uptown
to the Six Mile Pub;
- (b) Speed-interval cameras on the Highway 1 corridor between Langford and Mill

Bay and the Highway 14 corridor between Langford and Sooke;
(c) Construction of medians on, and twinning of, the Highway 1 corridor between Langford and Mill Bay wherever feasible;
(d) Establishment of more frequent, less costly public transit service over the Malahat;
(e) Restoration of rail operations on the E & N Corridor, including commuter rail service;
(f) Consideration of improved / restored ferry service across Saanich Inlet (Brentwood Bay-Mill Bay) and Esquimalt Harbour (Royal Bay-Dockyard).
2. Requests that the Chair write, on behalf of the Board, to the Premier of British Columbia, copying the Ministers responsible for Transportation as well as Members of the Legislative Assembly representing constituencies on Vancouver Island, advising the Provincial government of this position.
3. Requests that the Chair meet with the Premier and the Minister of Transportation to discuss opportunities for collaboration to address these transportation improvements.

MOVED by Director Brice, SECONDED by Director Screech,
That the report be referred to the Transportation Committee for the April meeting.
CARRIED
OPPOSED: Young

9. NEW BUSINESS

There was no new business.

10. MOTION TO CLOSE THE MEETING

10.1. [19-311](#) Motions to Close the Meeting

MOVED by Director McNeil-Smith, SECONDED by Director Orr,
1. a) That the meeting be closed for Negotiations of a Proposed Service under section 90 (1)(k);
CARRIED

MOVED by Director Martin, SECONDED by Director Screech,
b) That consideration of this item in an open meeting could reasonably be expected to harm the interests of the Capital Regional District. [1 item]
CARRIED

MOVED by Director Screech, SECONDED by Director Martin,
2. That the meeting be closed for Land Acquisitions under section 90 (1)(e) of the Community Charter. [1 item]
CARRIED

MOVED by Director Screech, SECONDED by Director Martin,
3. That the meeting be closed for Appointments under Section 90 (1)(a) of the Community Charter. [2 items]
CARRIED

11. RISE AND REPORT

The Board moved to the closed session at 3:25 pm.

The Board rose from the closed session at 3:41 pm and reported on the following items:

2.3. Solid Waste Advisory Committee Appointment (Department of National Defence)

That Ms. Rachel Speller be appointed as the Department of National Defence representative to the Solid Waste Advisory Committee, as per the Solid Waste Advisory Committee Terms of Reference.

2.4. Appointments to CRD Committees and Commissions:

BE IT RESOLVED:

In accordance with Bylaw No. 2397, that the following persons be appointed to the Peninsula Recreation Commission:

For a term to expire December 31, 2020: Karen Frost

In accordance with Bylaw No. 3718, that the following persons be appointed to the Pender Island Parks and Recreation Committee:

For a term to expire December 31, 2020: Arnold Alksne

In accordance with Bylaw No. 3693, that the following persons be appointed to the Salt Spring Island Liquid Waste Disposal Local Service:

For a term to expire December 31, 2020: Sandra Ungerson

In accordance with CRD Letters Patent, that the following persons be appointed to the Saanich Peninsula Water Commission as a Member-at-Large:

For a term to expire December 31, 2019 Michael Thompson

12. ADJOURNMENT

MOVED by Director Desjardins, **SECONDED** by Director Taylor,
That the March 13, 2019 Special Capital Regional District Board meeting be adjourned at 3:42 pm.

CARRIED

CHAIR

CERTIFIED CORRECT:

CORPORATE OFFICER