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Town of Sidney

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Office of the Mayor

December 3, 2024

VIA EMAIL

Destination BC
Municipal and Regional District Tax Program

To MRDT program staff,

Subject: Letter of Support for the Sidney Business Improvement Association's Application for the Municipal and Regional District Tax (MRDT) at 3%

On behalf of the Town of Sidney, I am writing to express our support for the Sidney Hotel Group and Sidney Business Improvement Association (SBIA) in their application to establish the Municipal and Regional District Tax (MRDT) of 3% within the Town of Sidney for the period of 2025 to 2030.

At its regular Council meeting on December 2, 2024, Council passed the following resolution:

> *2024.46.470*
> *That the Town provide a letter of support for the Sidney Hotel Group and Sidney BIA's application for a Municipal and Regional District Tax of 3% in the Town of Sidney from 2025 to 2030.*

Sidney is a gateway to the Gulf Islands and a vital hub for Vancouver Island's tourism economy. Leveraging the MRDT will enhance initiatives that attract visitors, support job creation, and bolster our growing tourism sector. This aligns with the Town's desire to foster a robust local economy and enhance the quality of life for residents through sustainable tourism practices.

We are confident in the ability of the SBIA to administer the MRDT in a manner that maximizes its positive impact. Their collaborative and results-driven approach will ensure the benefits of this program are widely felt throughout our community.

I encourage program staff, and the Provincial Cabinet to approve this application, as it represents an opportunity to build on the growing success of our tourism sector and strengthen Sidney's position as a premier destination in the region.

Sidney/SET,TINES is located within the territory of the WSÁNEĆ People

Thank you for your consideration. Please do not hesitate to contact me directly if further information or discussion would be helpful in advancing this application.

Sincerely,

Mayor Cliff McNeil-Smith