



**REPORT TO HOSPITALS AND HOUSING COMMITTEE
MEETING OF WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 28, 2018**

SUBJECT **Capital Regional District Housing Action Team Membership 2018**

ISSUE

This report provides a recommendation to amend the Terms of Reference and to approve the list of participants to sit on the Capital Regional District's (CRD) Housing Action Team (HAT) for 2018.

BACKGROUND

In 2007, the CRD developed the Regional Housing Affordability Strategy (RHAS) as a priority under the Regional Growth Strategy (RGS) 2003. At that time, the Housing Affordability Partnership (HAP) was created to help support the implementation of the RHAS. Over the years, the partnership has evolved into the HAT. A copy of the current Terms of Reference for the HAT is presented in Appendix A.

HAT membership is drawn from local municipalities, the building and development sector, real estate and financial sectors, other orders of government and non-profit housing agencies and foundations. HAT meets on a bi-monthly basis and its role is to help foster the development of affordable housing in the region, explore partnerships in development and advise the CRD on matters related to housing policy, planning and programs.

In addition to its usual activities, in 2017, the HAT has acted as the Advisory Committee for the renewal and update of the RHAS. The CRD has hired a consulting team that has been working on the project throughout the year. The draft of the updated RHAS is nearing completion and is expected to be presented to the Hospitals and Housing Committee at its meeting on April 25, 2018. The project included significant engagement with key stakeholders from regional municipalities and electoral areas, other levels of government, industry, non-profit housing providers and community groups.

The RGS mandates sustained action by the CRD to address housing issues, with particular attention to affordability. A renewed RHAS will identify key housing priorities for the CRD, align the various initiatives currently underway, outline potential new strategic action and provide a foundation for reporting on the CRD's progress toward achieving objectives related to housing and homelessness in the region.

The Terms of Reference require that membership of the HAT be recommended by the General Manager, Planning and Protective Services for final approval each year at a meeting of the Hospitals and Housing Committee. The current Terms of Reference document restricts the number of representatives by sector and staff is requesting amendments in order to provide the opportunity for greater flexibility and inclusiveness with respect to membership. This will allow the continuation of the current membership, which now has the potential to include staff representation from four municipalities in the region.

This year, staff are recommending the continuation of all 2017 members to lend consistency to the advisory support being provided to the RHAS update project. The proposed slate of candidates for membership on the HAT is presented in Appendix B. Each has been contacted and has expressed an interest in participating.

ALTERNATIVES

Alternative 1

- a) That the Terms of Reference as presented in Appendix A be approved; and
- b) That the slate of candidates for the 2018 Housing Action Team as presented in Appendix B be approved.

Alternative 2

That the report be referred back to staff with alternative direction by the committee.

IMPLICATIONS

Social Implications

The work of the HAT helps facilitate engagement among key housing stakeholders that are responsible for improving housing affordability for demographic groups that face hardship within the region's current housing market.

Intergovernmental Implications

It is important that the HAT include representatives from the Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation, BC Housing and, where possible, regional municipalities and/or electoral areas. This provides the opportunity to coordinate the CRD's housing programs and services within the policy and program frameworks of these other levels of government. It also provides the opportunity for the CRD to support positive working relationships among government agencies, housing industry, non-profit housing providers and community organizations.

RECOMMENDATION

- a) That the Terms of Reference as presented in Appendix A be approved; and
- b) That the slate of candidates for the 2018 Housing Action Team as presented in Appendix B be approved.

Submitted by:	John Reilly, MSW RSW, Manager Housing Planning and Programs
Concurrence:	Christine Culham, Senior Manager Regional Housing
Concurrence:	Kevin Lorette, P.Eng., MBA, General Manager Planning & Protective Services

JR:gd

Attachments: Appendix A – Housing Action Team Terms of Reference
Appendix B – CRD Housing Action Team – 2018 Proposed Membership List