

Terms of Reference

The logo for the Capital Regional District (CRD) is located in the top right corner of the header. It consists of the letters 'CRD' in a stylized, bold, sans-serif font, positioned above a series of three curved, overlapping lines that suggest a landscape or water.

FIRST NATIONS RELATIONS COMMITTEE

PREAMBLE

The Capital Regional District (CRD) spans the traditional territories of over 20 First Nations, of which 11 have Reserve lands and 9 of those are populated. The First Nations Relations Committee is a standing committee established by the CRD Board to provide support to the Board in building strong government-to-government relationships with First Nations, and to provide advice and direction to the Board on matters that directly or indirectly affect those relationships.

The Committee's official name is to be:

First Nations Relations Standing Committee

1.0 PURPOSE

- a) The mandate of the Committee includes providing advice and making recommendations to the Board regarding the following functions relating to First Nation governments:
 - i. Initiate and engage in programs and activities that strengthen relationships between the CRD and First Nations within the region;
 - ii. Understand and provide advice to the Board on the implications of the BC Treaty process where it intersects with local government interests;
 - iii. Provide guidance to the First Nations Relations Division in coordinating regional events such as a Forum of all Councils;
 - iv. Make recommendations to the Board on membership and participation of First Nation governments on the Committee and on the Board;
 - v. Engage with senior levels of government and provide representation on an intergovernmental working group, as required;
 - vi. Make recommendations to the Board on the initiatives identified in the First Nations Task Force Final Report.

2.0 ESTABLISHMENT AND AUTHORITY

- a) The Committee will make recommendations to the Board; and,
- b) The Board Chair will appoint the Committee Chair, Vice Chair and Committee members.

3.0 COMPOSITION

- a) Committee members will be appointed CRD Board Members;
- b) All Board members are permitted to participate in standing committee meetings, but not to vote, where an item of local significance is on the agenda (Board resolution Nov. 12, 2014).

4.0 PROCEDURES

- a) The Committee shall meet quarterly and hold special meetings as required;
- b) The agenda shall be finalized in consultation between staff and the Committee Chair and any Committee member may request that a matter be placed on the agenda;
- c) With the approval of the Committee Chair and the Board Chair committee matters of an urgent or time sensitive nature may be forwarded directly to the Board for considerations;
- d) A quorum is a majority of the Committee membership and is required to conduct Committee business.
- e) The above procedures may be relaxed or suspended by majority vote of the Committee in order to facilitate unstructured discussions and consensus-based outcomes.

5.0 RESOURCES AND SUPPORT

- a) The General Manager of Corporate Services with support from the Manager of First Nations Relations will provide strategic support and serve as the principal point of contact for Committee members.
- b) Minutes and agendas are prepared and distributed by Corporate Services.

Approved by the CRD Board on _____