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**REPORT TO CAPITAL REGIONAL DISTRICT BOARD  
MEETING OF WEDNESDAY, MARCH 11, 2020**

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**SUBJECT**     **Elector Assent Obtained for CRD Bylaws No. 4326 and 4327**

**ISSUE SUMMARY**

To report back on the results of the elector assent process for CRD Bylaws No. 4326 and 4327 and advance the bylaws for adoption.

**BACKGROUND**

On September 11, 2019, Capital Regional District (CRD) Board gave three readings to the following bylaws:

- Bylaw No. 4326, “Land Assembly, Housing and Land Banking Service Establishment Bylaw No. 1, 2010, Amendment Bylaw No. 1, 2019” to remove the limitations to borrowing; and
- Bylaw No. 4327, “Regional Housing First Program Loan Authorization Bylaw No. 1, 2019” to authorize the borrowing of an additional ten million dollars (\$10,000,000) for the Land Assembly, Housing and Land Banking Service.

In order to amend the establishing bylaw and adopt a loan authorization bylaw, elector assent is required from 2/3rds of participants which include all 13 municipalities and 3 electoral areas of the Capital Regional District (or a minimum of 11 out of 16). Elector assent for the municipalities was sought via municipal Council consent on behalf of their electors, as per section 346 of the *Local Government Act*. Elector assent in the electoral areas was sought via an alternative approval process under section 345 of the *Local Government Act*. Both processes were conducted concurrently starting January 8. Consent was obtained from all 13 municipal participants, and from all 3 electoral areas (via a <10% AAP response rate) (Appendix A).

**ALTERNATIVES**

*Alternative 1*

1. That the attached Certificate of Results from the Corporate Officer for Bylaw No. 4326 and 4327 be received;
2. To declare that elector assent has been obtained as per section 345 and 346 of the *Local Government Act*;
3. That Bylaw No. 4326 be adopted;
4. That Bylaw No. 4327 be adopted;
5. That staff continue to pursue negotiations with Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation to obtain matching funds; and
6. That the Chief Administrative Officer be authorized to execute such grant agreements with the Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation and BC Housing.

*Alternative 2*

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

## **IMPLICATIONS**

### *Intergovernmental Implications*

Bylaws No. 4326 and 4327 can be adopted without unanimous assent. All 16 local government participants have consented to the changes, 13 municipalities provided consent via their Councils, and the 3 electoral areas conducted AAPs and had a less than 10% response rate.

### *Alignment with Board & Corporate Priorities*

One of the CRD 2019-2022 Board Priorities includes “Community Wellbeing – Transportation & Housing”, including ‘Create and deliver more affordable housing across the region in a manner aligned with the Regional Growth Strategy in order to address the needs of a diverse and growing population, including vulnerable residents.’

### *Alignment with Existing Plans & Strategies*

The intent of Bylaws No. 4326 and 4327 (Appendix B and C) is to increase the CRD’s contribution to the Regional Housing First Program (RHFP) by \$10 million, to meet the original program goal of creating 400 units rented at the provincial income assistance shelter rate. Adoption of both bylaws is required to raise the funds and receive \$10 million in matching funds from BC Housing. The additional investment by BC Housing and CRD will bring the total program funding to \$110 million.

## **CONCLUSION**

Elector assent has been obtained from all 16 participants in the Regional Housing First Program via municipal consent on behalf and electoral area alternative approval processes for CRD Bylaws No. 4326 and 4327. The intent of the bylaws is to increase the CRD’s contribution to the Regional Housing First Program (RHFP) by \$10 million, to meet the original program goal of creating 400 units rented at the provincial income assistance shelter rate and will bring the total program funding to \$110 million. On adoption of the bylaws, the CRD will proceed with the construction of units under the RHFP with funding partner BC Housing and will continue efforts to obtain further funding from the CMHC.

## **RECOMMENDATION**

1. That the attached Certificate of Results from the Corporate Officer for Bylaw No. 4326 and 4327 be received;
2. To declare that elector assent has been obtained as per section 345 and 346 of the Local Government Act;
3. That Bylaw No. 4326 be adopted;
4. That Bylaw No. 4327 be adopted;
5. That staff continue to pursue negotiations with Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation to obtain matching funds; and
6. That the Chief Administrative Officer be authorized to execute such grant agreements with the Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation and BC Housing.

Submitted by:	Emilie Gorman, Manager, Legislative Services & Deputy Corporate Officer
Concurrence:	Kristen Morley, J.D., General Manager, Corporate Services & Corporate Officer
Concurrence:	Kevin Lorette, P. Eng., MBA, General Manager, Planning & Protective Services
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**ATTACHMENTS**

Appendix A: Certificate of AAP Results for Bylaws No. 4326 and 4327

Appendix B: Bylaw No. 4326 at Third Reading

Appendix C: Bylaw No. 4327 at Third Reading