

Page 001

Withheld pursuant to/removed as

s.16

Preston, Hope CSCD:EX

From: Tubman, Tammy CSCD:EX on behalf of Minister, CSCD CSCD:EX
Sent: Wednesday, July 8, 2015 3:32 PM
To: 'ryan.windsor@csaanich.ca'; 'afinall@northsaanich.ca'; 'slprice@sidney.ca'
Cc: 'patrick.robins@csaanich.ca'; 'rbuchan@northsaanich.ca'; XT:Randy Humble, Town of Sidney MTIC:IN
Subject: CRD Governance

Ref: 157437

His Worship Mayor Steve Price
and Members of Council
Town of Sidney
2440 Sidney Avenue
Sidney, BC V8L 1Y7

His Worship Mayor Ryan Windsor
and Members of Council
District of Central Saanich
1903 Mount Newton Cross Road
Saanichton, BC V8M 2A9

Her Worship Mayor Alice Finall
and Members of Council
District of North Saanich
1620 Mills Road
North Saanich, BC V8L 5S9

Dear Mayors Price, Windsor and Finall, and Councillors:

Thank you for your letters regarding the potential amalgamation of three Saanich Peninsula municipalities and your request for funding to conduct a study on behalf of your residents.

I appreciate your patience as I consider how best to proceed with the questions of governance and services in the Capital area.

Given the complexity of this issue and the diversity of perspectives, I would like to hear directly from you and Council members about your interests and thoughts about service and governance integration in the Capital area. To this end, I would be pleased to convene a meeting with the Mayors and Councils from the Town of Sidney, the District of Central Saanich and the District of North Saanich, at my office in Victoria the week of July 13, 2015.

My staff will follow up in the coming days to arrange such a discussion.

Sincerely,

Coralee Oakes
Minister

pc: Mr. Randy Humble, Chief Administrative Officer, Town of Sidney
Mr. Patrick Robins, Chief Administrative Officer, District of Central Saanich
Mr. Rob Buchan, Chief Administrative Officer, District of North Saanich

157635

THE CITY OF VICTORIA



OFFICE OF THE MAYOR

The Honourable Coralee Oakes
Minister of Community, Sport and Cultural Development
Parliament Buildings
Victoria, BC V8V 1X4

February 17, 2015

Dear Minister Oakes,

On behalf of City Council and the citizens of Victoria, I am writing to ask that the Provincial government undertake a study on regional governance, based on the enclosed guidelines.

Residents of our region have made it clear that there is a real and widespread interest in studying amalgamation. During the municipal elections last year, City of Victoria ballots included a question on governance review, to which voters responded resoundingly in favour. Six of the seven other municipalities in the Capital Regional District also included similar questions, and found that voters supported amalgamation, or the study thereof.

It is apparent that there is a strong mandate from the residents of Greater Victoria for this undertaking. I propose that the enclosed document guide this study which should evaluate the various models to achieve good municipal governance, follow sound methods to assess the merits of each, and to ensure inclusion of all interested parties and agencies, including members of the public.

Finally, I'm writing to reaffirm that, as I expressed to you in person last week, I look forward to working on this exciting and potential transformative governance project with you. And I'm happy to play a supportive role in your work on this important file.

Sincerely,

Lisa Helms
Victoria Mayor

Encl.

Guidelines for Study on Amalgamation

- 1) The study team must report to the Minister and must be instructed to carry out its task in a timely manner.
- 2) The study must be inclusive and engage all the municipal agencies in the Capital Region and the First Nations.
- 3) The study must examine the existing municipal structure (including the CRD) in the Capital Region and recommend changes to achieve good municipal governance across the region, including participation, accountability, efficiency and effectiveness.
- 4) The study process must include opportunities for the public to interface with the study team during the preparation of the report.
- 5) The study must consider more than one option for municipal boundaries in the Capital Region.
- 6) When evaluating each option, consideration must be given to providing consideration of residential, commercial, urban, and rural interests.
- 7) The study must evaluate the economic, social, environmental and cultural merits of each option.
- 8) The study must include a plan for public meetings to discuss the recommendations of the report.
- 9) The study must prescribe timelines for implementation of the study.
- 10) The study must identify implementation issues that need to be resolved.

CORRESPONDENCE SERVICES	
Received:	FEB 26 2015
Sent:	FEB 25 2015
ASSIGN TO:	
V. L.G.	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	MINISTER'S RESPONSE
<input type="checkbox"/>	DM RESPONSE
<input type="checkbox"/>	DIRECT REPLY
<input type="checkbox"/>	NECESSARY ACTION
<input type="checkbox"/>	COMMENTS/ADVICE
<input type="checkbox"/>	PREMIER'S RESPONSE
<input type="checkbox"/>	INFO/FILE

Preston, Hope CSCD:EX

From: Tubman, Tammy CSCD:EX on behalf of Minister, CSCD CSCD:EX
Sent: Wednesday, July 8, 2015 3:33 PM
To: 'lhelps@victoria.ca'
Cc: 'jjohnson@victoria.ca'
Subject: CRD Governance

Ref: 157635

Her Worship Mayor Lisa Helps
and Members of Council
City of Victoria
1 Centennial Square
Victoria, BC V8W 1P6

Dear Mayor Helps and Councillors:

Thank you for your letter of February 17, 2015, regarding governance in the Capital region and your offer to support work on this issue.

I appreciate your patience as I consider how best to proceed with the questions of governance and services in the Capital area.

Given the complexity of this issue and the diversity of perspectives, I would like to hear directly from you and Council members about your interests and thoughts about service and governance integration in the Capital area. To this end, I would be pleased to arrange a meeting at my office in Victoria the week of July 13, 2015.

My staff will follow up in the coming days to arrange such a discussion.

Sincerely,

Coralee Oakes
Minister

pc: Mr. Jason Johnson, City Manager, City of Victoria

157743

Weich, Rika I CSCD:EX

From: Jones, Anthony CSCD:EX
Sent: Tuesday, March 10, 2015 12:02 PM
To: CSCD Minister's Correspondence Action Items CSCD:EX
Cc: Brown, Tom G CSCD:EX
Subject: FW: Town of Sidney Re: Regional Amalgamation Study
Attachments: Town of Sidney - Amalgamaion Study.pdf

Anthony Jones
Administrative Assistant to the
Honourable Coralee Oakes
Minister of Community, Sport and Cultural Development

From: Sandi Dunic [mailto:sdunic@sidney.ca]
Sent: Tuesday, March 10, 2015 10:17 AM
To: Minister, CSCD CSCD:EX
Subject: Town of Sidney Re: Regional Amalgamation Study

Please see attachment (original to follow in mail).

Thank you.

Sandi Dunic, Deputy Clerk
TOWN OF SIDNEY
2440 Sidney Avenue
Sidney, BC V8L 1Y7
MAIN: 250-656-1139 | DIRECT: 250-656-6402
CELL: 250-883-2272 | FAX: 250-656-7056
sdunic@sidney.ca www.sidney.ca

CORRESPONDENCE SERVICES	
Received	MAR 10 2015
Sent	MAR 10 2015
ASSIGN TO:	LG
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	MINISTER'S RESPONSE
<input type="checkbox"/>	EMR RESPONSE
<input type="checkbox"/>	EXPECT REPLY
<input type="checkbox"/>	NECESSARY ACTION
<input type="checkbox"/>	COMMENTS/ADVICE
<input type="checkbox"/>	FORWARDER'S RESPONSE
<input type="checkbox"/>	INFO/FILE

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TOWN OF SIDNEY

2440 Sidney Avenue, Sidney, British Columbia V8L 1Y7
Phone: 250-656-1184 Fax: 250-655-4508
Email: admin@sidney.ca Website: www.sidney.ca

March 9, 2015

Minister Coralee Oakes
Ministry of Community, Sport and Cultural Development
PO Box 9056, STN PROV GOVT.
Victoria, BC V8W 9E2
Email: CSCD.minister@gov.bc.ca

Dear Minister Oakes:

Subject: Town of Sidney - Community Opinion Poll on Amalgamation

Town of Sidney Council, in conjunction with the 2014 Local Government Election, included a question on the ballot, as per section 83 of the *Community Charter*, relating to municipal amalgamation.

The question presented to our community specifically referred to a provincially funded amalgamation study of the three municipalities of the Saanich Peninsula - the Town of Sidney, the District of North Saanich and the District of Central Saanich (please see attachment).

On behalf of Council, I request the Provincial Government to move forward with their commitment to undertake a governance review of municipalities in the Capital Region.

Council supports our citizens' request for an amalgamation study and we look forward to the Ministry's review.

Yours truly,

Mayor Steve Price

Attach.

TOWN OF SIDNEY

DECLARATION OF OFFICIAL RESULTS

NON-BINDING QUESTION

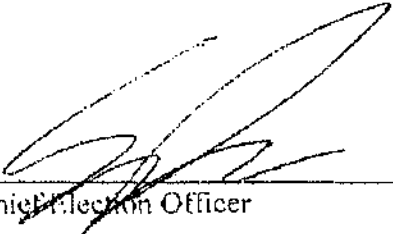
Are you in favour of a provincially funded study to investigate the feasibility, costs and implications of amalgamating the three municipalities of the Saanich Peninsula?

I, Sandi Dunic, Chief Election Officer, do hereby declare the following results:

YES	2566
NO	1232

Dated at Sidney, BC

this 19th day of November, 2014.



Chief Election Officer



Honourable Coralee Oakes
Minister of Community, Sport
and Cultural Development
PO Box 9056, STN PROV GOVT
Victoria, BC V8W 9E2

Dear Minister Oakes:

On behalf of City Council and the Colwood community, I am writing to express our support for the City of Victoria's request to the Provincial Government to undertake a study on regional governance using the proposed guidelines submitted with their letter (copy attached).

In October 2014, Colwood City Council reaffirmed its resolve to participate in the exploration process for amalgamation or integrated services in the future with one or more municipalities should the opportunity present itself. In November 2014, residents of the capital region clearly expressed a desire for a governance review.

COLWOOD CITY HALL
3300 Wishart Road
Colwood, BC V9C 1R1

CONTACT
Phone: 250.478.5999
Fax: 250.478.7516
mayor@colwood.ca

Open House
8:30 am – 4:30 pm
Monday – Friday
except stat holidays

www.colwood.ca

The guidelines proposed by the City of Victoria accurately thoughtfully define what needs to be considered, studied and evaluated, requires public consultation and effective participation, and establishes the need for prescribed timelines for implementation of the study and identifying implementation issues that need to be resolved.

Many municipalities in the capital region are committed to working together on this important issue to ensure the best possible governance model is in place for our region.

I hope you are able to expedite a meeting between Ministry officials and the City, individually or with municipal representatives from the capital region, to start the dialogue and next steps towards a governance review.

Sincerely,

Carol Hamilton

Mayor

Attachment



Colwood Guidelines for Study on Amalgamation

1. The study team must report to the Minister and must be instructed to carry out its task in a timely manner.
2. The study must be inclusive and engage all the municipal agencies in the Capital Region and the First Nations.
3. The study must examine the existing municipal structure (including the CRD) in the Capital Region and recommend changes to achieve good municipal governance across the region, including participation, accountability, efficiency and effectiveness.
4. The study process must include opportunities for the public to interface with the study team during the preparation of the report.
5. The study must consider at least three options for municipal boundaries in the Capital Region.
6. When evaluating each option, consideration must be given to providing consideration of residential, commercial, urban, and rural interests.
7. The study must evaluate the economic, social, environmental and cultural merits of each option.
8. The study must include a plan for public meetings to discuss the recommendations of the report.
9. The study must prescribe timelines for implementation of the study.
10. The study must identify implementation issues that need to be resolved.

157790

Weich, Rika I CSCD:EX

Subject: FW: Peninsula Amalgamation Study - next steps

From: Patrick Robins <Patrick.Robins@csaanich.ca>
Sent: Tuesday, March 17, 2015 3:07 PM
To: Denlinger, Becky CSCD:EX
Subject: Peninsula Amalgamation Study - next steps

Dear Deputy Minister Denlinger:

I thought I would do advance communication with the ministry with respect to possible next steps for a peninsula amalgamation study.

At last night's Central Saanich council meeting council resolved to invite Minister Oakes, the three peninsula municipalities (North Saanich, Central Saanich and Sidney) and the community's citizens to a forum to discuss next steps of a cost/benefit study on amalgamation.

We understand from Central Saanich Councillor Paltiel that Minister Oakes has expressed an interest in participating in such a forum. My preliminary communication with you is to confirm this and to determine dates that the minister might be available.

These are of course the early stages of putting together such a forum including confirmation from North Saanich and Sidney of their participation, format of forum, length, etc.

I understand you are away until next week but would like the opportunity to discuss this with you at your earliest convenience.

Sincerely,

Patrick J. Robins | Chief Administrative Officer
District of Central Saanich
1903 Mt. Newton Cross Rd.
Saanichton, BC V8M 2A9

Direct: 250-544-4201 | General: 250-652-4444 | Fax: 250-652-0135

CORRESPONDENCE SERVICES	
Received:	MAR 17 2015
Sent:	MAR 17 2015
ASSIGN TO:	LG
<input type="checkbox"/>	MINISTER'S RESPONSE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	DM RESPONSE
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157833

Weich, Rika I CSCD:EX

From: Hart, Emma CSCD:EX
Sent: Friday, March 20, 2015 11:38 AM
To: CSCD Minister's Correspondence Action Items CSCD:EX
Cc: Bell, Jordan CSCD:EX; Ok-Stone, Angella CSCD:EX; Woodcock, Danielle CSCD:EX; Valentine, Lee CSCD:EX
Subject: FW: Letter to Minister Coralee Oakes
Attachments: Minister Oakes.pdf

Re: Amalgamation

Emma Hart
Administrative Assistant
Office of the Minister
Community, Sport and Cultural Development
T: 250 387 2288 F: 250 387 4312
Email: Emma.Hart@gov.bc.ca

From: Paula Kully [<mailto:pkully@sidney.ca>]
Sent: Thursday, March 19, 2015 2:17 PM
To: Minister, CSCD CSCD:EX
Cc: Ryan Windsor; Alice Finail - District of North Saanich s.22
Subject: Letter to Minister Coralee Oakes

Please see the attached letter from Mayor Steve Price to Minister Coralee Oakes.

Paula Kully, Executive Assistant

Town of Sidney, 2440 Sidney Ave.
Sidney, BC V8L 1Y7
250-656-1139 | pkully@sidney.ca



CORRESPONDENCE SERVICES	
Received:	MAR 23 2015
Sent:	ASSIC
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please respond under 157793

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TOWN OF SIDNEY

Office of the Mayor

2440 Sidney Avenue, Sidney, British Columbia V8L 1Y7
Phone: 250-656-1184 Fax: 250-655-4508
Email: mayor@sidney.ca Website: www.sidney.ca

March 19th, 2015

The Honourable Coralee Oakes,
Minister of Community, Sport and Cultural Development
PO Box 9056, STN PROV GOVT.
Victoria, BC V8W 9E2

Dear Minister Oakes;

The Town of Sidney has recently learned that the District of Central Saanich wishes to conduct a community forum, involving the three Peninsula based municipalities, for the purpose of receiving feedback from the residents on how to best move forward with an amalgamation study. Prior to committing to any involvement in such a forum, the Town of Sidney is seeking a response and clarification from the Province as to what their expectations are, if any, from the Peninsula based municipalities along with the municipalities throughout the entire region regarding an amalgamation study or studies, and what approach the Province plans on taking with respect to funding and undertaking a study on the feasibility, costs and implications of amalgamation.

It is clear that the three Saanich Peninsula municipalities asked relatively similar questions, which garnered similar results from our respective electorates.

Sidney

Are you in favour of a provincially funded study to investigate the feasibility, costs and implications of amalgamating the three municipalities of the Saanich Peninsula?

Yes: 2,566 (68%) No: 1,232

North Saanich

Are you in favour of a study, provincially funded, to investigate the feasibility, costs and implications of amalgamating the three municipalities on the Saanich Peninsula of Sidney, Central Saanich and North Saanich?

Yes: 2,881 (68%) No: 1,727

Central Saanich

Should the District of Central Saanich petition the Province to fund a cost/benefit analysis of an amalgamation of Central Saanich, North Saanich and Sidney?

Yes: 3,588 (71%) No: 1,489

While all three questions specified that the study was to be funded by the Province, each was silent on who would carry out the study. From the Town of Sidney's perspective, it would certainly impact the impartiality and credibility of an amalgamation study if the local governments themselves were to undertake it; nor do we have the expertise or the available resources to carry out such a study.

Accordingly, it is imperative that the Province provides a timely response to my request for clarity regarding the desired approach and process to be taken on the amalgamation study, so that the Town of Sidney can determine whether it is appropriate to collaborate with the District of Central Saanich and the District of North Saanich on the establishment of a set of Peninsula-specific terms of reference. To be clear, while we have no intention of carrying out the study ourselves, we are willing and eager to assist with an area-specific terms of reference for such a study.

Thank you in advance and I look forward to hearing from you.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Steve Price". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned below the word "Sincerely,".

Mayor Steve Price

c: Mayor Alice Finall, District of North Saanich
Mayor Ryan Windsor, District of Central Saanich

158/153



The Corporation of the District of Central Saanich

April 20, 2015

File No. 0400-20/15

The Honourable Coralee Oakes
Minister of Community, Sport and Cultural Development
Room 124
Parliament Buildings
Victoria, BC V8V 1X4

MINISTRY OF COMMUNITY, SPORT AND CULTURAL DEVELOPMENT MINISTER'S OFFICE RECEIVED APR 24 2015	
ROUTE TO:	_____
CC:	_____
DRAFT REPLY <input type="checkbox"/> DM <input type="checkbox"/> FY/FILE <input type="checkbox"/> REPLY DIRECT <input type="checkbox"/> FNA <input type="checkbox"/>	

Dear Minister Oakes:

Re: Municipal Amalgamation Funding and Setting Out a Plan of Study

Further to our correspondence dated April 14, 2015, at their Regular Council Meeting held on March 16, 2015, District of Central Saanich Council formally resolved to send correspondence to the Ministry of Community, Sport and Cultural Development petitioning the Provincial Government for funding a cost/benefit analysis on amalgamation of the three Peninsula municipalities. While we understand that funds will be made available by the province for an amalgamation study, we are submitting our request based on the fact that the majority of electors voted "yes" to the question: "Should the District of Central Saanich petition the Province to fund a cost/benefit analysis of an amalgamation of Central Saanich, North Saanich and Sidney?"

Should you have any questions in this regard, please do not hesitate to contact the Corporate Officer, Ms. Liz Cornwell, at 250-544-4202.

Sincerely,

Ryan Windsor
Mayor

Encl: Correspondence to The Honourable Coralee Oakes dated April 14, 2015

C: Members of Council

*1903 Mount Newton Cross Road, Saanichton, B.C. V8M 2A9
Phone: (250) 652-4444 Fax: (250) 652-0135*



The Corporation of the District of Central Saanich

April 14, 2015

File No. 2370-01/15
0400-20/15

The Honourable Coralee Oakes
Minister of Community, Sport and Cultural Development
Room 124
Parliament Buildings
Victoria, BC V8V 1X4

Dear Minister Oakes:

Re: Municipal Amalgamation Funding and Setting Out a Plan of Study

On behalf of Council, I wish to extend an invitation to you to attend a joint committee meeting on the subject of provincial government funding for a cost/benefit study of the District of Central Saanich, the District of North Saanich and the Town of Sidney. As you are aware, in November, 2014, a majority of residents in the three municipalities voted in favour of petitioning the Province to fund the study.

Council has resolved to invite the Mayors and Councils of the three municipalities and their citizens to attend and provide input at the meeting. Following the joint committee meeting, we respectfully request a meeting with you to discuss next steps, including development of the Terms of Reference for the study. The Mayors and Chief Administrative Officers of the 3 municipalities will be invited to the follow-up meeting.

In order to move forward, we ask that your staff provide us with dates and times you are available to attend the meeting.

We greatly appreciate your consideration of our invitation, and look forward to meeting with you to discuss the very important matter of the future of the Saanich Peninsula communities

Sincerely,

Ryan Windsor
Mayor

C: Members of Council

1903 Mount Newton Cross Road, Saanichton, B.C. V8M 2A9

Phone: (250) 652-4444 Fax: (250) 652-0155

158200

Weich, Rika I CSCD:EX

From: Hart, Emma CSCD:EX
Sent: Friday, May 1, 2015 2:02 PM
To: CSCD Minister's Correspondence Action Items CSCD:EX
Subject: FW: Capital Regional Amalgamation Study
Attachments: SKMBT_C65015050108290.pdf

Also sent to Jordan and Cami

Emma Hart
Administrative Assistant
Office of the Minister
Community, Sport and Cultural Development
T: 250 387 2283 F: 250 387 4312
Email: Emma.Hart@gov.bc.ca
Please consider the environment before printing or faxing.

CORRESPONDENCE SERVICES	
Received:	
MAY 1 2015	
Sent: MAY 1 2015	
ASSIGN TO:	
/ LG	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	MINISTER'S RESPONSE
<input type="checkbox"/>	DM RESPONSE
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<input type="checkbox"/>	NECESSARY ACTION
<input type="checkbox"/>	COMMENTS/ADVICE
<input type="checkbox"/>	PREMIER'S RESPONSE
<input type="checkbox"/>	INFO/FILE

From: Anja Nurvo [<mailto:anja.nurvo@esquimalt.ca>]
Sent: Friday, May 1, 2015 8:32 AM
To: Minister, CSCD CSCD:EX
Subject: Capital Regional Amalgamation Study

Please see attached correspondence from the Township of Esquimalt.

Anja Nurvo, BA, LLB
Director of Corporate Services
Corporate Services
Township of Esquimalt
Phone: [1-250-414-7135](tel:1-250-414-7135)
www.esquimalt.ca



1229 Esquimalt Road
Esquimalt BC V9A 3P1
PHONE: 250-414-7100
FAX: 250-414-7111
www.esquimalt.ca

Via email to
CSCD.Minister@gov.bc.ca

May 1, 2015

Honourable Coralee Oakes
Minister of Community, Sport and Cultural Development
PO Box 9056
Stn Prov Govt
Victoria, BC V8W 9E2

Dear Minister Oakes:

Re: Capital Regional Amalgamation Study

This will confirm that the Council of the Township of Esquimalt recently reviewed the draft Amalgamation Study Guidelines submitted to the Province by the City of Victoria and by the Amalgamation Yes group.

Council is acting on this matter and is moving forward on the mandate received from the public on the non-binding referendum questions relating to amalgamation and shared services at the 2014 local government election. However, prior to submitting proposed Study Guidelines to the Province, Council will conduct further public consultation on the draft Guidelines. We will be holding a Town Hall meeting and inviting public comments on the draft Guidelines in the near future in order to obtain concrete direction and clear criteria from the public on this important issue.

Following the completion of the public consultation process, we will provide further correspondence to you.

Please contact me if you have any questions relating to this issue or our process.

Yours truly,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Anja Nurvo".

Anja Nurvo, BA, LLB
Director of Corporate Services

Preston, Hope CSCD:EX

From: Hawkins, Sylvia E. CSCD:EX on behalf of Minister, CSCD CSCD:EX
Sent: Wednesday, July 8, 2015 4:58 PM
To: 'barb.desjardins@esquimalt.ca'
Cc: 'laurie.hurst@esquimalt.ca'
Subject: RE: CRD Governance - corrected email

Ref: 158200

Her Worship Mayor Barbara Desjardins
and Members of Council
Township of Esquimalt
1229 Esquimalt Road
Victoria, BC V9A 3P1

Dear Mayor Desjardins and Councillors:

I am writing to invite you and Council to meet on the issue of governance and services in the Capital area. I feel it is important to hear from all local governments on this matter so I can better understand how to support a conversation in governance and service integration in the Capital area.

Given the complexity of this issue and the diversity of perspectives, I would like to hear directly from you and Council members about your interests and thoughts on service and governance integration in the Capital area. To this end, I would be pleased to arrange a meeting at my Victoria office the week of July 13, 2015.

My staff will follow up in the coming days to arrange this discussion.

Sincerely,

Coralee Oakes
Minister

pc: Laurie Hurst, Chief Administrative Officer, Township of Esquimalt

158461



DISTRICT OF METCHOSIN

May 26, 2015

File: 6420-02

The Honourable Coralee Oakes
Minister of Community, Sport and Cultural Development
PO Box 9056 Stn Prov Govt
Victoria, BC V8W 9E2

MINISTRY OF COMMUNITY, SPORT AND CULTURAL DEVELOPMENT MINISTER'S OFFICE		
RECEIVED		
JUN 01 2015		
ROUTE TO: _____		
CC: _____		
DRAFT REPLY <input type="checkbox"/>	DM <input type="checkbox"/>	FY/FILE <input type="checkbox"/>
REPLY DIRECT <input type="checkbox"/>	FVA <input type="checkbox"/>	

Dear Minister Oakes

Re: Regional Governance Study - Amalgamation

On behalf of the District of Metchosin Council, I am writing to ask that Mayor Rams be included to participate in the dialogue and next steps towards a governance review.

It is our understanding that your staff have been in contact with the organization called "Amalgamation Yes" as to the coordination of a meeting inviting all Mayors.

Metchosin is not opposed to urban amalgamation providing that rural areas are kept separate. It is important that each Municipality be engaged in determining the terms of reference and program for any amalgamation study in the Capital Region. Many municipalities in the Capital Region are committed to working together on this important issue to ensure the best possible governance model is in place for our region and Metchosin is requesting to be included.

We greatly appreciate your consideration of our invitation, and look forward to meeting you to discuss the very important matter of the future of the Capital Region.

Sincerely,

Tammie Van Swieten
Deputy Corporate Officer

cc. Earle Anthony, Secretary
Amalgamation Yes

4450 Happy Valley Road, Victoria, B.C. V9C 3Z3
Administration Office (250) 474-3167 Fax 474-6298
Building Inspection Department (250) 474-3196 Fax 474-6298

Preston, Hope CSCD:EX

From: Hawkins, Sylvia E. CSCD:EX on behalf of Minister, CSCD CSCD:EX
Sent: Wednesday, July 8, 2015 4:50 PM
To: 'oakbaymayor@oakbay.ca'
Cc: 'hkoning@oakbay.ca'
Subject: RE: CRD Governance - corrected email

Ref: 158807

His Worship Mayor Nils Jensen
and Members of Council
District of Oak Bay
2167 Oak Bay Avenue
Victoria, BC V8R 1G2

Dear Mayor Jensen and Councillors:

I am writing to invite you and Council to meet on the issue of governance and services in the Capital area. I feel it is important to hear from all local governments on this matter so I can better understand how to support a conversation in governance and service integration in the Capital area.

Given the complexity of this issue and the diversity of perspectives, I would like to hear directly from you and Council members about your interests and thoughts on service and governance integration in the Capital area. To this end, I would be pleased to arrange a meeting at my Victoria office the week of July 13, 2015.

My staff will follow up in the coming days to arrange this discussion.

Sincerely,

Coralee Oakes
Minister

pc: Ms. Helen Koning, Chief Administrative Officer, District of Oak Bay

Preston, Hope CSCD:EX

From: Tubman, Tammy CSCD:EX on behalf of Minister, CSCD CSCD:EX
Sent: Wednesday, July 8, 2015 3:39 PM
To: XT:Langford, City ENV:IN
Cc: 'jbowden@cityoflangford.ca'
Subject: CRD Governance

Ref: 158808

His Worship Mayor Stewart Young
and Members of Council
City of Langford
877 Goldstream Avenue, 2nd Floor
Victoria, BC V9B 2X8

Dear Mayor Young and Councillors:

I am writing to invite you and Council to meet on the issue of governance and services in the Capital area. I feel it is important to hear from all local governments on this matter so I can to understand how to support a conversation in governance and service integration in the Capital area.

Given the complexity of this issue and the diversity of perspectives, I would like to hear directly from you and Council members about your interests and thoughts on service and governance integration in the Capital area. To this end, I would be pleased to arrange a meeting at my Victoria office the week of July 13, 2015.

My staff will follow up in the coming days to arrange this discussion.

Sincerely,

Coralee Oakes
Minister

pc: Mr. Jim Bowden, Chief Administrative Officer, City of Langford

Preston, Hope CSCD:EX

From: Hawkins, Sylvia E. CSCD:EX on behalf of Minister, CSCD CSCD:EX
Sent: Wednesday, July 8, 2015 4:56 PM
To: 'mayor@saanich.ca'
Cc: 'andy.laidlaw@saanich.ca'
Subject: RE: CRD Governance - corrected email

Ref: 158812

His Worship Mayor Richard Atwell
and Members of Council
District of Saanich
770 Vernon Avenue
Victoria, BC V8X 2W7

Dear Mayor Atwell and Councillors:

I am writing to invite you and Council to meet on the issue of governance and services in the Capital area. I feel it is important to hear from all local governments on this matter so I can better understand how to support a conversation in governance and service integration in the Capital area.

Given the complexity of this issue and the diversity of perspectives, I would like to hear directly from you and Council members about your interests and thoughts on service and governance integration in the Capital area. To this end, I would be pleased to arrange a meeting at my Victoria office the week of July 13, 2015.

My staff will follow up in the coming days to arrange this discussion.

Sincerely,

Coralee Oakes
Minister

pc: Mr. Andy Laidlaw, Chief Administrative Officer, District of Saanich

Weich, Rika I CSCD:EX

From: Minister, CSCD CSCD:EX
Sent: Monday, July 13, 2015 9:17 AM
To: CSCD Minister's Correspondence Action Items CSCD:EX
Subject: FW: CRD Governance
Attachments: excerpt - June 22, 2015.pdf

CORRESPONDENCE SERVICES	
RECEIVED	JUL 13 2015
Sent:	JUL 15 2015
ASSIGNED TO:	247
<input type="checkbox"/>	MINISTER'S RESPONSE
<input type="checkbox"/>	DM RESPONSE
<input type="checkbox"/>	DIRECT REPLY
<input type="checkbox"/>	NECESSARY ACTION
<input type="checkbox"/>	COMMENTS/ADVICE
<input type="checkbox"/>	PREMIER'S RESPONSE
<input type="checkbox"/>	INFO/FILE

From: Lorraine Hilton [mailto:hilton@oakbay.ca]
Sent: Friday, July 10, 2015 4:54 PM
To: Minister, CSCD CSCD:EX
Cc: Maura Jones; Helen Koning; Councillor Hazel Braithwaite; Councillor Kevin Murdoch; Councillor Michelle Kirby; Councillor Tara Ney; Eric Wood Zhelka; Councillor Croft; Mayor Nils Jensen
Subject: RE: CRD Governance

Dear Minister Oakes:

This is in response to Mayor Jensen's request that information be forwarded to you as noted in the email below.

The non-binding opinion question placed on the ballot for the District of Oak Bay 2014 General Local Election was as follows:

Are you in favour of the District of Oak Bay being amalgamated into a larger regional municipality? YES or NO.

The results were: YES: 2,184 NO: 3,594

As Mayor Jensen noted in his correspondence to you, Oak Bay Municipal Council recently considered a resolution in relation to a possible governance study to be undertaken by the Ministry. In this regard, please find attached an excerpt from the minutes of the June 22, 2015 Council meeting. Please note, however, that these minutes have not yet been finally adopted by Council.

Yours truly,

Lorraine Hilton
Municipal Clerk
The Corporation of the District of Oak Bay
2167 Oak Bay Avenue
Victoria, BC V8R 1G2
Phone: (250) 598-3311
Fax: (250) 598-9108

From: Mayor Nils Jensen
Sent: Wednesday, July 08, 2015 5:02 PM
To: Minister, CSCD CSCD:EX
Cc: Lorraine Hilton; Maura Jones; Helen Koning; Councillor Hazel Braithwaite; Councillor Kevin Murdoch; Councillor Michelle Kirby; Councillor Tara Ney; Eric Wood Zhelka; Tom Croft; Mayor Nils Jensen
Subject: Re: CRD Governance

Thank you Minister,

s.22

Perhaps we could arrange to meet at UBCM in September? We will have 6 of our 7 members of council and our CAO there.

As you know Oak Bay had a non-binding question on the ballot last November. Council also recently considered the issue. I will arrange to have a copy of the ballot question and recent motion forwarded to you.

We would welcome receiving information about any study you are planning to undertake on the issues you outline in your email. We understand other communities have made requests or are considering requests for you to conduct such a study.

You will also know that Oak Bay currently has integrated services with other municipalities. For instance police services are integrated with Saanich. Similarly we have mutual fire aid agreements in place with adjoining municipalities. Other services, such as water, sewage and solid waste are integrated under the umbrella of the CRD.

I would be interested in learning more about what you mean by 'governance integration' as mentioned in your email. We would welcome receiving information regarding the options you have in mind and any corresponding Ministry research on the topic.

Regards,
Nils

Nils Jensen
Mayor
Oak Bay
and
CRD Chair

On Jul 8, 2015, at 15:37, Minister, CSCD CSCD:EX <CSCD.minister@gov.bc.ca> wrote:

Ref: 158807

His Worship Mayor Nils Jensen
and Members of Council
District of Oak Bay
2167 Oak Bay Avenue
Victoria, BC V8R 1G2

Dear Mayor Jensen and Councillors:

I am writing to invite you and Council to meet on the issue of governance and services in the Capital area. I feel it is important to hear from all local governments on this matter so I can to understand how to support a conversation in governance and service integration in the Capital area.

Given the complexity of this issue and the diversity of perspectives, I would like to hear directly from you and Council members about your interests and thoughts on service and governance integration in the Capital area. To this end, I would be pleased to arrange a meeting at my Victoria office the week of July 13, 2015.

My staff will follow up in the coming days to arrange this discussion.

Sincerely,

Coralee Oakes
Minister

pc: Ms. Helen Koning, Chief Administrative Officer, District of Oak Bay

EXCERPT

20. *Inclusion of the District of Oak Bay as Stakeholder in Amalgamation Study*

MOVED by Councillor Murdoch, seconded by Councillor Braithwaite: That the following motion be lifted from the table:

WHEREAS Oak Bay would be impacted by any potential changes to regional governance;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Mayor be directed to draft a letter to the Minister of Community, Sport and Cultural Development requesting that the District of Oak Bay be included in any meetings, discussions, or studies the Province may initiate regarding a governance review or amalgamation related to core Greater Victoria municipalities.

CARRIED

Some members of Council spoke in support of the motion, emphasizing that the intention of sending correspondence requesting participation meetings, discussions or studies regarding a governance review or amalgamation was to insure that the District of Oak Bay would be represented in any forthcoming studies.

During the ensuing discussion, the majority of Council commented that sending correspondence as described in the motion would be premature at this point in the process. Members also emphasized the importance of respecting the response to the 2014 referendum in which a majority of residents indicated that they were not in support of amalgamation. Comments were made that it might be appropriate for the District of Oak Bay to participate in future discussions regarding a governance review or amalgamation once the process was determined.

MOVED by Councillor Murdoch, Seconded by Councillor Braithwaite: That the motion be amended by removing the words "or amalgamation".

CARRIED

(Councillors Croft, Kirby and Zhelka against the motion)

The question on the main motion as amended was then called.

DEFEATED

(Mayor Jensen and Councillors Croft, Kirby, Ney and Zhelka against the motion)

Page 029 to/à Page 030

Withheld pursuant to/removed as

s.16



Ref: 159543

Her Worship Mayor Carol Hamilton
and Members of Council
City of Colwood
3300 Wishart Road
Victoria, BC V9C 1R1

Dear Mayor Hamilton and Councillors:

As the new Minister of Community, Sport and Cultural Development, I appreciated meeting with your delegation at the 2015 UBCM Convention in Vancouver. It is always valuable to hear directly from local governments regarding issues and concerns in their communities.

I was especially pleased to meet with Acting Mayor Chong and Council as City of Colwood representatives were unable to attend the July meetings, where former Minister Coralee Oakes heard from Capital Region representatives on their perspectives and interests respecting integration of services and governance. I was pleased to fulfil Minister Oakes' promise to meet this fall.

I appreciated the opportunity to hear from your delegation and share ideas on how best to respond to the November 2014 referendum results in the Capital Region. While the referendum questions and the results were quite mixed, I understand there was a common thread in that the region's electors want their local governments to further explore the question of how to better integrate.

Having now completed the meetings with the full complement of CRD local governments, I will reflect on what I and Minister Oakes heard, give further thought to how best to facilitate a dialogue about integrated services and governance, and then follow up with all local governments in the region about how to move forward and what the Province of British Columbia will do to help.

Thank you again to your delegation for taking the time to meet with me at the Convention. I look forward to a continuing productive dialogue with your community.

Sincerely,

Peter Fassbender
Minister

Ministry of Community,
Sport and Cultural Development and
Minister Responsible for TransLink

Office of the Minister

Mailing Address:
PO Box 9056 5th Prov Govt
Victoria BC V8W 9E2
Phone: 250 387-2283
Fax: 250 387-4312

Location:
Room 310
Parliament Buildings
Victoria BC

www.gov.bc.ca/cscd

Preston, Hope CSCD:EX

Subject: FW: Meeting with Minister Fassbender

From: Mayor <Mayor@saanich.ca>

Date: September 24, 2015 at 7:00:53 PM PDT

To: <Lia.Robbins@gov.bc.ca>

Subject: Re: Meeting with Minister Fassbender

Hello Lia,

I wished to meet with the Minister to discuss the governance study and I also wanted to discuss the CRD sewage project with him and his staff.

Richard Atwell
Mayor of Saanich

On Sep 24, 2015, at 3:05 PM, Robbins, Lia CSCD:EX <Lia.Robbins@gov.bc.ca> wrote:

Hello Mayor Atwell,

As discussed here at UBCM, Minister Fassbender and staff would welcome the opportunity to meet in Victoria in the coming weeks while the House is in session. Before we schedule a meeting, are you able to send me the topics of discussions for the meeting that you had mentioned?

Thanks very much!

Lia Robbins
Administrative Coordinator to Minister Fassbender
Community, Sport & Cultural Development (Ministry Responsible for TransLink)
250-387-6478



The Corporation of the District of Central Saanich

September 17, 2015

Honourable Peter Fassbender
Minister of Community, Sport and Cultural Development
(and Minister Responsible for TransLink)
PO Box 9845 Stn Prov Govt
Victoria, BC V8W 9T2

FILE NO. 0408-2015 MINISTRY OF COMMUNITY, SPORT AND CULTURAL DEVELOPMENT MINISTER'S OFFICE RECEIVED SEP 23 2015 ROUTE TO: _____ CC: _____ DRAFT REPLY <input type="checkbox"/> DM <input type="checkbox"/> FYVFILE <input type="checkbox"/> REPLY DIRECT <input type="checkbox"/> FNA <input type="checkbox"/>	
--	--

Dear Minister Fassbender:

Re: Request for Confirmation of New Minister's Support or Provincial Financial Support for Peninsula Amalgamation Study

On behalf of the Municipal Council of the District of Central Saanich, I wish to congratulate you on your recent appointment as Minister of Community, Sport and Cultural Development.

At the Regular Council Meeting held on August 17, 2015, Council requested confirmation of Provincial financial support for a Peninsula Amalgamation Study in response to the majority of elector's "yes" votes to the question: "Should the District of Central Saanich petition the Province to fund a cost/benefit analysis of an amalgamation of Central Saanich, North Saanich, and Sidney?"

Attached are copies of correspondence dated April 14 and 20, 2015, sent to your predecessor entitled "Municipal Amalgamation Funding and Setting Out a Plan of Study", for your information and consideration.

Should you have any questions with respect to this matter, please do not hesitate to contact the Corporate Officer, Ms. Liz Cornwell, at 250-544-4202.

Sincerely,

Ryan Windsor
Mayor

Enclosures (2)

C: Members of Council

1903 Mount Newton Cross Road, Saanichton, B.C. V8M 2A9

Phone: (250) 652-4444 Fax: (250) 652-0135



The Corporation of the District of Central Saanich

April 20, 2015

File No. 0400-20/15

The Honourable Coralee Oakes
Minister of Community, Sport and Cultural Development
Room 124
Parliament Buildings
Victoria, BC V8V 1X4

Dear Minister Oakes:

Re: Municipal Amalgamation Funding and Setting Out a Plan of Study

Further to our correspondence dated April 14, 2015, at their Regular Council Meeting held on March 16, 2015, District of Central Saanich Council formally resolved to send correspondence to the Ministry of Community, Sport and Cultural Development petitioning the Provincial Government for funding a cost/benefit analysis on amalgamation of the three Peninsula municipalities. While we understand that funds will be made available by the province for an amalgamation study, we are submitting our request based on the fact that the majority of electors voted "yes" to the question: "Should the District of Central Saanich petition the Province to fund a cost/benefit analysis of an amalgamation of Central Saanich, North Saanich and Sidney?"

Should you have any questions in this regard, please do not hesitate to contact the Corporate Officer, Ms. Liz Cornwell, at 250-544-4202.

Sincerely,

Ryan Windsor
Mayor

Encl: Correspondence to The Honourable Coralee Oakes dated April 14, 2015

C: Members of Council

*1903 Mount Newton Cross Road, Saanichton, B.C. V8M 2A0
Phone: (250) 652-4444 Fax: (250) 652-0135*



The Corporation of the District of Central Saanich

April 14, 2015

File No. 2370-01/15
0400-20/15

The Honourable Coralee Oakes
Minister of Community, Sport and Cultural Development
Room 124
Parliament Buildings
Victoria, BC V8V 1X4

Dear Minister Oakes:

Re: Municipal Amalgamation Funding and Setting Out a Plan of Study

On behalf of Council, I wish to extend an invitation to you to attend a joint committee meeting on the subject of provincial government funding for a cost/benefit study of the District of Central Saanich, the District of North Saanich and the Town of Sidney. As you are aware, in November, 2014, a majority of residents in the three municipalities voted in favour of petitioning the Province to fund the study.

Council has resolved to invite the Mayors and Councils of the three municipalities and their citizens to attend and provide input at the meeting. Following the joint committee meeting, we respectfully request a meeting with you to discuss 'next steps, including development of the Terms of Reference for the study. The Mayors and Chief Administrative Officers of the 3 municipalities will be invited to the follow-up meeting.

In order to move forward, we ask that your staff provide us with dates and times you are available to attend the meeting.

We greatly appreciate your consideration of our invitation, and look forward to meeting with you to discuss the very important matter of the future of the Saanich Peninsula communities

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Ryan Windsor".

Ryan Windsor
Mayor

C: Members of Council

19-500 Mountain View Road, Saanichton, B.C. V8Z 1Y3
Phone: (250) 650-0111 Fax: (250) 650-0155



Ref: 164951

His Worship Mayor Ryan Windsor
District of Central Saanich
1903 Mount Newton Cross Road
Saanichton, BC V8M 2A9

Dear Mayor Windsor:

As the new Minister of Community, Sport and Cultural Development, I am writing to provide you with a brief update regarding discussions on the topic of service and governance integration in the Capital region.

I am very pleased that, following two final meetings held during the week of UBCM Convention, Minister Oakes and I have now met with all of the Capital region municipalities. It was very useful for me to hear directly from some of the region's local government representatives, and to learn about the other meetings from my staff and from Minister Oakes.

While individual interests and perspectives are diverse, there have been shared views on the common thread from the 2014 referenda results – namely, that there may be benefit to the region from local governments exploring further the question of how to better integrate services and governance. I know that informing the public and others about the current governance and services profile of the Capital region will be of continuing interest to many of you, especially respecting the number of services already undertaken in a shared or integrated way.

Recognizing the range of ideas we have heard, I propose that we continue our conversation, with all local governments at the table, to consider how the region might wish to move forward and how the Province of British Columbia could support these efforts.

Accordingly, I would like to invite the region's Mayors to meet with me later in November or in early December 2015. Dates I can be available include November 27th (either 2:00-3:30 or 2:30-4:00) or December 3rd (3:00-4:30). As this will be an important conversation and understanding that we will need to accommodate many schedules, I respectfully request this first meeting be direct with Mayors and we will build in future opportunities to engage your councillors and Chief Administrative Officers.

.../2

Ministry of Community,
Sport and Cultural Development and
Minister Responsible for TransLink

Office of the Minister

Mailing Address:
PO Box 9056 Stn Prov Govt
Victoria BC V8W 9E2
Phone: 250 387-2283
Fax: 250 387-4312

Location:
Room 310
Parliament Buildings
Victoria BC

www.gov.bc.ca/cscd

His Worship Mayor Ryan Windsor

Page 2

I look forward to receiving a representative response as to which date you can all be available to meet. Please send your collective response on which time works for all Mayors to Ms. Lia Robbins, via email at: Lia.Robbins@gov.bc.ca, or by telephone at: 250 387-6478. I have requested that Ministry of Community, Sport and Cultural Development staff develop a short agenda to guide our dialogue, to be provided for your review prior to our meeting. Staff will provide location details for our meeting as soon as we have a date.

I trust that you find this a reasonable path forward, and I thank you in advance for your contributions to this important topic.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'P. Fassbender', with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

Peter Fassbender
Minister

