

## FW: FOR RESPONSE | Developmental Approvals Process Review (DAPR)

s.12; s.13

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From: Ashbourne, Craig MAH:EX <Craig.Ashbourne@gov.bc.ca>  
To: Henry, Molly MAH:EX, Robinson, Selina MAH:EX  
Sent: June 9, 2020 12:06:24 PM PDT  
Attachments: 2020-06-08\_254629\_MIN DBN\_DAPR

s.12; s.13

Minister (and Molly) – let's discuss either late today or tomorrow, whenever your schedule allows.

C

Craig Ashbourne  
Senior Ministerial Assistant  
Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing and responsible for Translink  
C: 250-213-3187  
E: craig.ashbourne@gov.bc.ca<mailto:craig.ashbourne@gov.bc.ca>

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From: Gedney, Vanessa R MAH:EX <Vanessa.Gedney@gov.bc.ca>  
Sent: June 9, 2020 11:51 AM  
To: Ashbourne, Craig MAH:EX <Craig.Ashbourne@gov.bc.ca>  
Subject: FOR RESPONSE | Developmental Approvals Process Review (DAPR)

s.12; s.13

s.12; s.13

s.12; s.13

We have a briefing scheduled with MSR on June 11th

s.12; s.13

s.12; s.13

Attached, is the DBN for reference.

Thank you,

From: Tang, Lynne MAH:EX <Lynne.Tang@gov.bc.ca<mailto:Lynne.Tang@gov.bc.ca>>  
Sent: June 2, 2020 4:54 PM  
To: Gedney, Vanessa R MAH:EX <Vanessa.Gedney@gov.bc.ca<mailto:Vanessa.Gedney@gov.bc.ca>>  
Subject: DAPR

s.12; s.13

Vanessa,

s.12; s.13

Do you have dates that we can work with at this time?

Thanks, Lynne



## BRIEFING NOTE FOR DECISION

**Date:** June 9, 2020

**Prepared For:** Honourable Selina Robinson, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing

**Title:** Development Approvals Process Review (DAPR) -

s.12; s.13

**Issue:**

s.12; s.13

### RECOMMENDED OPTION:

- 

s.12; s.13; s.17

### BACKGROUND:

The Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing (Ministry) initiated the DAPR to address challenges and identify opportunities for improvement in LG development approvals processes.

s.12; s.13; s.17

s.12; s.13; s.17

Collectively, actions under these priorities are expected to have significant impacts on the efficiency and effectiveness of the development approvals process. The COVID-19 pandemic, however, has resulted in significant economic impacts to the province, and stimulating recovery will be a significant and pressing priority for all ministries. Additionally, challenges faced by local governments and developers during the pandemic has highlighted a pressing need to find more efficient and effective ways of making land use decisions. In fact, in response to the pandemic, many individual local governments have by necessity adapted and begun streamlining their development approval processes.

s.12; s.13; s.17

### DISCUSSION:

The development sector has been a critical input into the provincial economy; in 2017, for example, residential development alone was responsible for nearly \$12 billion in wages and nearly 200,000 jobs (source: CHBA).

Development approvals (DA) play an important role in ensuring community interests are met and developments are healthy and safe, however a range of forces that are brought to bear on DAs can also result in complex, lengthy and expensive processes with significant uncertainties.

s.13

s.13



Ministry of  
Municipal Affairs  
and Housing

CLIFF 254629  
(X-REF. #253665)

s.12; s.13; s.17

s.12; s.13

s.12; s.13; s.17



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Withheld pursuant to/removed as

s.12; s.13; s.17



**Appendices:**

1. \_\_\_\_\_ s.12; s.13; s.17
2. \_\_\_\_\_ s.12; s.13

**PREPARED BY:**

Lee Nicol, Director Planning and Land Use Management  
Planning and Land Use Management Branch  
(778) 698-3405

**APPROVED BY:**

Silas Brownsey, Associate Deputy Minister  
Strategic Planning and Land Use Division

Kaye Krishna, Deputy Minister

**DATE APPROVED:**

June 3, 2020

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Withheld pursuant to/removed as

s.13; s.17; s.12

Page 11 of 50

Withheld pursuant to/removed as

s.12; s.13

**From:** Ashbourne, Craig MAH:EX <Craig.Ashbourne@gov.bc.ca>  
**To:** Robinson, Selina MAH:EX  
**Sent:** July 14, 2020 4:52:28 PM PDT  
**Attachments:** 255659\_

s.12 docx

Summary of this one if you want it for talking to MMM.

Craig Ashbourne

Senior Ministerial Assistant

**Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing and responsible for Translink**

C: 250-213-3187

E: [craig.ashbourne@gov.bc.ca](mailto:craig.ashbourne@gov.bc.ca)

**Pronouns: they/them/theirs**

---

**From:** Brownsey, Silas MAH:EX

**Sent:** July 14, 2020 4:27 PM

**To:** Ashbourne, Craig MAH:EX

**Subject:** FW: 255659\_

s.12 docx

Here's the project summary document as mentioned.

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**From:** Brownsey, Silas MAH:EX

**Sent:** July 14, 2020 4:15 PM

**To:** Kennedy, Christine JEDC:EX <[Christine.Kennedy@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Christine.Kennedy@gov.bc.ca)>

**Subject:** 255659\_

s.12 .docx

As mentioned. Thanks!

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Withheld pursuant to/removed as

s.12; s.13

## RE: Briefing Materials | DAPR Priorities and Emergency Program Act Modernization | Briefing Date: July 29

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From: Ashbourne, Craig MAH:EX <Craig.Ashbourne@gov.bc.ca>  
To: Ducker, Jayne MAH:EX  
Cc: Rayner, Jena MAH:EX  
Sent: August 6, 2020 2:42:54 PM PDT

Yes, these are good to go to MSR for confirmation, but they look like what was discussed.

C

Sent from my Samsung Galaxy smartphone.

----- Original message -----

From: "Ducker, Jayne MAH:EX"  
Date: 2020-08-06 2:31 p.m. (GMT-08:00)  
To: "Ashbourne, Craig MAH:EX"  
Cc: "Rayner, Jena MAH:EX"  
Subject: FW: Briefing Materials | DAPR Priorities and Emergency Program Act Modernization | Briefing Date: July 29

Hey Craig – Vanessa is follow up on this one. Are you okay if Jena put them on the iPad for Minister to review next week?

All the best,  
Jayne

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**From:** Gedney, Vanessa R MAH:EX <[Vanessa.Gedney@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Vanessa.Gedney@gov.bc.ca)>  
**Sent:** August 4, 2020 10:08 AM  
**To:** Ashbourne, Craig MAH:EX <[Craig.Ashbourne@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Craig.Ashbourne@gov.bc.ca)>  
**Cc:** Rayner, Jena MAH:EX <[Jena.Rayner@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Jena.Rayner@gov.bc.ca)>; White, Christine MAH:EX <[Christine.White@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Christine.White@gov.bc.ca)>; Billingham, Stephanie MAH:EX <[Stephanie.Billingham@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Stephanie.Billingham@gov.bc.ca)>; Kubisheski, Carlee MAH:EX <[Carlee.Kubisheski@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Carlee.Kubisheski@gov.bc.ca)>; Hitchen, Daniel MAH:EX <[Daniel.Hitchen@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Daniel.Hitchen@gov.bc.ca)>; Henry, Molly MAH:EX <[Molly.Henry@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Molly.Henry@gov.bc.ca)>; Ducker, Jayne MAH:EX <[Jayne.Ducker@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Jayne.Ducker@gov.bc.ca)>  
**Subject:** FW: Briefing Materials | DAPR Priorities and Emergency Program Act Modernization | Briefing Date: July 29  
Good morning Craig, edits have been made as you requested below (highlighted for reference):

1. DBN #255864: Modernization of the Emergency Program Act;
2. DBN #256113: Development Approvals Process Review – s.12; s.13 and

**From:** Ashbourne, Craig MAH:EX <[Craig.Ashbourne@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Craig.Ashbourne@gov.bc.ca)>  
**Sent:** July 30, 2020 10:40 AM  
**To:** Gedney, Vanessa R MAH:EX <[Vanessa.Gedney@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Vanessa.Gedney@gov.bc.ca)>; Hitchen, Daniel MAH:EX <[Daniel.Hitchen@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Daniel.Hitchen@gov.bc.ca)>; Henry, Molly MAH:EX <[Molly.Henry@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Molly.Henry@gov.bc.ca)>; Ducker, Jayne MAH:EX <[Jayne.Ducker@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Jayne.Ducker@gov.bc.ca)>  
**Cc:** Rayner, Jena MAH:EX <[Jena.Rayner@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Jena.Rayner@gov.bc.ca)>; White, Christine MAH:EX <[Christine.White@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Christine.White@gov.bc.ca)>; Billingham, Stephanie MAH:EX <[Stephanie.Billingham@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Stephanie.Billingham@gov.bc.ca)>; Kubisheski, Carlee MAH:EX <[Carlee.Kubisheski@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Carlee.Kubisheski@gov.bc.ca)>  
**Subject:** RE: Briefing Materials | DAPR Priorities and Emergency Program Act Modernization | Briefing Date: July 29

s.13

If those elements can be adjusted we could move ahead with e-sigs.

Craig Ashbourne

Senior Ministerial Assistant

Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing and responsible for Translink

C: 250-213-3187

E: [craig.ashbourne@gov.bc.ca](mailto:craig.ashbourne@gov.bc.ca)

Pronouns: they/them/theirs

**From:** Gedney, Vanessa R MAH:EX <[Vanessa.Gedney@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Vanessa.Gedney@gov.bc.ca)>

**Sent:** July 30, 2020 10:33 AM

**To:** Hitchen, Daniel MAH:EX <[Daniel.Hitchen@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Daniel.Hitchen@gov.bc.ca)>; Ashbourne, Craig MAH:EX <[Craig.Ashbourne@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Craig.Ashbourne@gov.bc.ca)>; Henry, Molly MAH:EX <[Molly.Henry@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Molly.Henry@gov.bc.ca)>; Ducker, Jayne MAH:EX <[Jayne.Ducker@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Jayne.Ducker@gov.bc.ca)>  
**Cc:** Rayner, Jena MAH:EX <[Jena.Rayner@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Jena.Rayner@gov.bc.ca)>; White, Christine MAH:EX <[Christine.White@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Christine.White@gov.bc.ca)>; Billingham, Stephanie MAH:EX <[Stephanie.Billingham@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Stephanie.Billingham@gov.bc.ca)>; Kubisheski, Carlee MAH:EX <[Carlee.Kubisheski@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Carlee.Kubisheski@gov.bc.ca)>

**Subject:** RE: Briefing Materials | DAPR Priorities and Emergency Program Act Modernization | Briefing Date: July 29  
Good morning Molly, staff have advised that MSR verbally approved/supported the following four DBNS discussed in yesterday's briefing; can you please confirm if I can finalize with MSR's e-signature?

1. DBN #255864: Modernization of the Emergency Program Act;
2. DBN #256113: Development Approvals Process Review – s.12; s.13 and
3. s.12; s.13
- 4.

Thank you,

**From:** Hitchen, Daniel MAH:EX

**Sent:** July 24, 2020 4:45 PM

**To:** Ashbourne, Craig MAH:EX <[Craig.Ashbourne@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Craig.Ashbourne@gov.bc.ca)>; Henry, Molly MAH:EX <[Molly.Henry@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Molly.Henry@gov.bc.ca)>; Ducker, Jayne MAH:EX <[Jayne.Ducker@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Jayne.Ducker@gov.bc.ca)>

**Cc:** Rayner, Jena MAH:EX <[Jena.Rayner@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Jena.Rayner@gov.bc.ca)>; White, Christine MAH:EX <[Christine.White@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Christine.White@gov.bc.ca)>; Gedney, Vanessa R MAH:EX <[Vanessa.Gedney@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Vanessa.Gedney@gov.bc.ca)>; Billingham, Stephanie MAH:EX <[Stephanie.Billingham@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Stephanie.Billingham@gov.bc.ca)>; Kubisheski, Carlee MAH:EX <[Carlee.Kubisheski@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Carlee.Kubisheski@gov.bc.ca)>

**Subject:** Briefing Materials | DAPR Priorities and Emergency Program Act Modernization | Briefing Date: July 29

**Importance:** High

Good afternoon:

Three of four BN's for the briefing on July 29<sup>th</sup> have been uploaded to the WebDAV for review. We are expecting the fourth on Monday.

<b>Issue</b>	DAPR Priorities and Emergency Program Act Modernization
<b>Date</b>	July 29, 2020
<b>Time</b>	2:30pm-3:30pm
<b>Location</b>	MS Teams: <a href="#">Link</a>
<b>Material</b>	MIN IBN, MIN DBN x4
<b>Staff Support</b>	Silas Brownsey, Jessica Brooks, Lee Nicol

Thank you.

**Dan Hitchen** | Documents Coordinator  
Deputy Minister's Office  
Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing



## BRIEFING NOTE FOR DECISION

**Date:** July 20, 2020

**Prepared For:** Honourable Selina Robinson, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing

**Title:** Development Approvals Process Review (DAPR) -

s.12; s.13

**Issue:**

s.12; s.13

**RECOMMENDED OPTION:**

s.12; s.13; s.17

**BACKGROUND:**

The Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing (Ministry) initiated the Development Approvals Process Review (DAPR) to address challenges and identify opportunities for improvement in local government development approvals processes.

s.12; s.13; s.17

s.12; s.13; s.17

Collectively, actions under these priorities are expected to have significant impacts on the efficiency and effectiveness of the development approvals process. The COVID-19 pandemic has resulted in significant economic impacts to the province and stimulating recovery will be a significant and pressing priority for all ministries. Additionally, challenges faced by local governments and developers during the pandemic have highlighted a pressing need to find more efficient and effective ways of making land use decisions. In fact, in response to the pandemic, many individual local governments have by necessity adapted and begun streamlining their development approval processes.

s.12; s.13; s.17

**DISCUSSION:**

The development sector has been a critical input into the provincial economy; in 2017, for example, residential development alone was responsible for nearly \$12 billion in wages and nearly 200,000 jobs (source: CHBA).

Development approvals play an important role in ensuring community interests are met and developments are healthy and safe, however a range of forces that are brought to bear on development approvals can also result in complex, lengthy and expensive processes with significant uncertainties. s.13

s.13

s.13



s.12; s.13; s.14; s.17

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s.12; s.13; s.14; s.17

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s.13; s.17; s.12

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s.12; s.13



## BRIEFING NOTE FOR DECISION

**Date:** July 24, 2020

**Prepared For:** Honourable Selina Robinson, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing

**Title:** s.12; s.13

**Issue:** s.12; s.13

### RECOMMENDED OPTION:

s.12; s.13; s.16; s.17

### BACKGROUND:

The Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing (Ministry) initiated the Development Approvals Process Review (DAPR) to address challenges and identify opportunities for improvement in local government development approvals processes. During the DAPR consultation process, streamlining development approvals and improving the public hearing process were identified by stakeholders as high priorities.

s.13

s.13; s.16

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s.13; s.16



s.13; s.16; s.17

**FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS:**

s.12; s.13; s.16; s.17

**OPTIONS:**

s.12; s.13; s.16; s.17





s.12; s.13; s.16; s.17

  
Honourable Selina Robinson

July 29, 2020  
Date

**PREPARED BY:**

Lee Nicol, Director  
Planning and Land Use Management Branch  
(250) 698-3405

**APPROVED BY:**

Silas Brownsey, Acting Deputy Minister

**DATE APPROVED:**

July 27, 2020

## B U L L E T S

**Date:** June 25, 2020  
**Prepared For:** Honourable Selina Robinson, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing  
**Topic:** Public Hearings  
**Meeting With:** Mayor Victor Cumming, City of Vernon, on June 26, 2020 at 10:00 a.m.  
(delete this row if not for a meeting)

### SUMMARY:

#### Key messages

- Thank you for sharing with me the challenges you are facing in holding in-person public hearings.
- The Ministry expects local governments to design their public hearing processes during the pandemic in a way that provides for transparency, accessibility and fairness. That being said, the Ministry does not have any specific expectations that local governments need to hold a double public hearing to achieve those goals.
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- 
- 
- Ministry staff can follow up with your staff to get further information about your process concerns of if helpful, to provide more information on the electronic public hearing provisions. This will help inform the Ministry about how best to support local governments to address important public hearing considerations such as the one you have raised.

s.13

#### Background

- 
- The City has indicated that it is following all public health orders and recommendations on physical distancing when conducting public hearings.
- During a public hearing, the public must be afforded an opportunity to be heard by Council on the bylaw under consideration. This can be done verbally at the hearing or by written submission.
- Additionally, one of the central principles of a public hearing is that the public have an opportunity to respond to comments made by others during the hearing (i.e., comment on the previous comments from others)

s.13; s.16

- **To enable those who have decided not to attend the in-person public hearing for fear of COVID-19 to be able to comment on the comments made by the public, the City has devised a process whereby:**
  - a first in-person hearing is held and recorded,
  - the hearing is posted online,
  - a second hearing is scheduled and the public have an opportunity to comment on what was said at the first hearing via written submission; this step provides the public an opportunity to comment on the comments
  - a second in-person hearing is held where Council considers the written submissions newly received plus all other information received for the first public hearing, but no new presentations are made (i.e., no new information is brought to Council)

s.13; s.16

- **The Ministry has not provided any guidance to local governments on how to hold in-person public hearings to ensure a similar level of transparency, accessibility and fairness as in pre-pandemic times.**

s.13

**PREPARED BY:**

Lee Nicol, Director, Planning and Land Use Management  
Branch  
(778) 698-3405

**APPROVED BY:**

Silas Brownsey, ADM, Strategic Planning and Land Use Division  
Kaye Krishna, Deputy Minister

**DATE APPROVED:**

June 25, 2020

**From:** [Vanessa Gedney](#)  
**Cc:** [Hitchen, Daniel MAH:EX](#); [Wempe, Sarah MAH:EX](#)  
**Subject:** CLIFF ID 256272 | DAPR:  
**Date:** July 30, 2020 11:27:29 AM  
**Attachments:**

s.12; s.13

s.12; s.13

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Minister Robinson was briefed on July 29th  
applicable staff

s.12; s.13, please share with

[Click here to view this Log](#)



August 6, 2020

Ref: 255576

Mike Roberts  
Executive Director  
BC Municipal Safety Association  
20430 Fraser Highway  
Langley, BC V3A 4G2

Email: [mroberts@bcmsa.ca](mailto:mroberts@bcmsa.ca)  
CC: [PSSG.Minister@gov.bc.ca](mailto:PSSG.Minister@gov.bc.ca)

Dear Mike Roberts,

Thank you for your email of June 25, 2020, to the Honorable Mike Farnworth, Minister of Public Safety and Solicitor General regarding the meeting and public hearing requirements under Ministerial Order M192 (Order M192). As Assistant Deputy Minister, Local Government, I am pleased to respond.

B.C is currently in Phase 3 of the safe restart plan. [B.C.'s Restart Plan](#) sets out a careful, four-phase approach to restarting the province. Working in concert with public health monitoring from the Provincial Health Officer (PHO), the plan gradually allows for more social and economic activity. The reopening of local governments, businesses and other organizations must comply with public health and safety guidance from the PHO and WorkSafeBC.

Order M192 is necessary as part of Phase 3 of B.C.'s Restart Plan to transition local governments back to operating under the legislative rules and requirements for open meetings and electronic meetings. Standard meeting rules require the public to be present at open meetings. The Order and guidance materials that accompanied Order M192 support the principles of openness, transparency, accountability and accessibility which are fundamental principles of the local government system.

As you know, Order M192 requires local governments to make "best efforts" to accommodate having the public in attendance at their council and board meetings, either in-person or by allowing them to hear and watch through an electronic method, while balancing the Public Health Officer's (PHO) health and safety measures and physical distancing requirements. Local governments that are unable to accommodate the public to attend while meeting the PHO guidelines are now required to adopt a resolution to provide a rationale for the continued need to meet without the public present. A local government must also describe what measures are being taken to meet the open meeting principles of openness, transparency and accessibility, such as: providing agendas and draft minutes on local government website, archiving recordings, or livestreaming of a meeting. For more information about

...2

open and electronic meetings under Order M192 please see the [Guidelines for Local Governments Operating under Minister Order M192](#).

WorkSafeBC is in the best position to answer questions with respect to safe attendance of the public at open meetings of council. Each local government can create a plan that works for public attendance at their open meetings, while accounting for the health and safety recommendations made by WorkSafeBC and the PHO.

These provisions under M192 do not apply to public hearings. Public hearings are separate from council and board meetings and are addressed accordingly under Division 5 of Order M192. Under the Order, a council, board or local trust committee of the Islands Trust may conduct a public hearing by electronic or other communication facilities. These provisions provide local governments another tool to hold public hearings while complying with the public health orders on mass gatherings and recommendations on physical distancing.

It is up to each local government to decide which format of public hearing is best suited to its circumstances, whether it be electronic, in-person or a combination of both. For more information about public hearings under Order M192 please see “Guidance for the conduct of public hearings under Ministerial Order M192” available at on the Ministry’s website:  
<https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/governments/local-governments/governance-powers/covid-19>.

Should you have any further questions about the public hearing provisions of Order M192, please email the Planning and Land Use Branch of the Ministry at [PLUM@gov.bc.ca](mailto:PLUM@gov.bc.ca). For questions you may have about the open and electronic meeting provisions of Order M192, please email the Governance and Structure Branch at [LGGovernance@gov.bc.ca](mailto:LGGovernance@gov.bc.ca).

Thank you for writing.

Sincerely,

Tara Faganello  
Assistant Deputy Minister  
Local Government  
Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing



**From:** [Curtis Helgesen](#)  
**To:** [Deputy Minister, MAH:EX](#)  
**Cc:** [MAH LG Governance MAH:EX](#)  
**Subject:** FW: [EXTERNAL]: Fwd: Update from Kaye Krishna, Deputy Minister, Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing - Order M192  
**Date:** June 19, 2020 3:57:49 PM  
**Attachments:** [2020-06-17 Open Meetings Guidance.pdf](#)  
[ATT00001.htm](#)

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**CAUTION:** This email originated from outside of the organization. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

To whom it may concern:

This email was addressed to CAO's, but it was not received directly by myself, but our Board Chair forwarded the copy he received.

If someone could verify the email group list, that would be great.

Thanks,

Curtis

Curtis Helgesen  
Chief Administrative Officer  
Regional District of Bulkley-Nechako  
P.O. Box 820  
37 3rd Avenue  
Burns Lake, B.C. V0J 1E0  
[www.rdbn.bc.ca](http://www.rdbn.bc.ca)  
Ph: 250.692.3195  
Toll Free: 1.800.320.3339  
Direct: 250.692.1224  
Cell: 250.692.6614  
[curtis.helgesen@rdbn.bc.ca](mailto:curtis.helgesen@rdbn.bc.ca)

**FOR COVID-19 INFORMATION GO TO**

<https://www.rdbn.bc.ca/media-status-updates/covid-19-information>



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**From:** Gerry Thiessen  
**Sent:** Thursday, June 18, 2020 10:10 AM

**To:** Curtis Helgesen

**Subject:** [EXTERNAL]: Fwd: Update from Kaye Krishna, Deputy Minister, Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing - Order M192

Gerry Thiessen  
Mayor District of Vanderhoof

Chair of the Regional District of Bulkley-Nechako

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** "MAH DMO MAH:EX" <[MAH.DMO@gov.bc.ca](mailto:MAH.DMO@gov.bc.ca)>

**Date:** June 18, 2020 at 9:23:37 AM PDT

**Subject: Update from Kaye Krishna, Deputy Minister, Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing - Order M192**

Dear CAOs:

On June 17, 2020, MO139 was replaced with Order M192 to assist local governments as they move through the restart process towards a “new normal”. The primary changes under Order M192 are in relation to public presence at local government meetings and timing requirements for bylaw adoption. All other previous provisions under MO139 such as conducting public hearings electronically, allowing for Council, Boards and the Islands Trust to meet electronically and deferring improvement district annual general meetings, remain in effect under Order M192. Other rules such those as provided for in legislation or procedure bylaws such as: notice requirements, voting rules, minutes also continue to apply.

As you are aware, the previous order made it possible for local governments to meet without the public physically present – a significant departure from the standard rules that apply to council and board meetings. Order M192 continues to provide local governments flexibility in their meeting procedures while moving towards increased public presence at local government meetings where appropriate, for both “in person” and electronic meetings. The Order also transitions local governments to more standard rules in relation to bylaw adoption, limiting the previous order’s broad authority to read and adopt bylaws all at the same meeting to now only apply to the types of bylaws specified in Order M192.

Many local governments are already taking an incremental approach to again holding meetings in person and inviting their communities to be physically present at meetings, while complying with public health and safety direction. To encourage this transition, Order M192 requires local governments and the Islands Trust to make best efforts to accommodate the public to be present at in person or electronic meetings while continuing to meet public health orders and



recommendations.

Local governments that have made best efforts and continue to face challenges having the public present at meetings due to things like facility size or technological limitations will continue to be able to limit in person attendance at electronic and physical meetings under the Order. In that case, under Order M192 local governments will need to pass a resolution to provide a rationale of the reasons why the public cannot be present, as well as a description of the means by which the local government is meeting openness, transparency and accountability principles.

The following link provides additional guidance material to local governments that may be operating under the new Order M192:

<https://www2.gov.bc.ca/assets/download/A5B73B9507D64C4BBF79843F06043042>

Link to Order M192:

[http://www.bclaws.ca/civix/document/id/mo/mo/2020\\_m192](http://www.bclaws.ca/civix/document/id/mo/mo/2020_m192)

Any additional questions can be directed to: [lggovernance@gov.bc.ca](mailto:lggovernance@gov.bc.ca). We thank you for your continued hard work to conduct local government operations as you restart during the time of the pandemic.

Kaye Krishna  
Deputy Minister  
Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing

**From:** [Gedney, Vanessa R MAH:EX](#)  
**To:** [Ashbourne, Craig MAH:EX](#)  
**Cc:** [Rayner, Jena MAH:EX](#); [White, Christine MAH:EX](#); [Billingham, Stephanie MAH:EX](#); [Kubisheski, Carlee MAH:EX](#); [Hitchen, Daniel MAH:EX](#); [Henry, Molly MAH:EX](#); [Ducker, Jayne MAH:EX](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Briefing Materials | DAPR Priorities and Emergency Program Act Modernization | Briefing Date: July 29  
**Date:** August 4, 2020 10:08:22 AM  
**Attachments:** [255864 MIN DBN Modernization of the Emergency Program Act.docx](#)  
[256113 MIN DBN Development Approvals Process Review - s.12; s.13.docx](#)

---

Good morning Craig, edits have been made as you requested below (highlighted for reference):

1. DBN #255864: Modernization of the Emergency Program Act;
2. DBN #256113: Development Approvals Process Review – s.12; s.13 and

**From:** Ashbourne, Craig MAH:EX <[Craig.Ashbourne@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Craig.Ashbourne@gov.bc.ca)>

**Sent:** July 30, 2020 10:40 AM

**To:** Gedney, Vanessa R MAH:EX <[Vanessa.Gedney@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Vanessa.Gedney@gov.bc.ca)>; Hitchen, Daniel MAH:EX <[Daniel.Hitchen@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Daniel.Hitchen@gov.bc.ca)>; Henry, Molly MAH:EX <[Molly.Henry@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Molly.Henry@gov.bc.ca)>; Ducker, Jayne MAH:EX <[Jayne.Ducker@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Jayne.Ducker@gov.bc.ca)>

**Cc:** Rayner, Jena MAH:EX <[Jena.Rayner@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Jena.Rayner@gov.bc.ca)>; White, Christine MAH:EX <[Christine.White@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Christine.White@gov.bc.ca)>; Billingham, Stephanie MAH:EX <[Stephanie.Billingham@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Stephanie.Billingham@gov.bc.ca)>; Kubisheski, Carlee MAH:EX <[Carlee.Kubisheski@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Carlee.Kubisheski@gov.bc.ca)>

**Subject:** RE: Briefing Materials | DAPR Priorities and Emergency Program Act Modernization | Briefing Date: July 29

s.13

If those elements can be adjusted we could move ahead with e-sigs.

Craig Ashbourne

Senior Ministerial Assistant

**Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing and responsible for Translink**

C: 250-213-3187

E: [craig.ashbourne@gov.bc.ca](mailto:craig.ashbourne@gov.bc.ca)

**Pronouns:** they/them/theirs

**From:** Gedney, Vanessa R MAH:EX <[Vanessa.Gedney@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Vanessa.Gedney@gov.bc.ca)>

**Sent:** July 30, 2020 10:33 AM

**To:** Hitchen, Daniel MAH:EX <[Daniel.Hitchen@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Daniel.Hitchen@gov.bc.ca)>; Ashbourne, Craig MAH:EX <[Craig.Ashbourne@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Craig.Ashbourne@gov.bc.ca)>; Henry, Molly MAH:EX <[Molly.Henry@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Molly.Henry@gov.bc.ca)>; Ducker, Jayne MAH:EX <[Jayne.Ducker@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Jayne.Ducker@gov.bc.ca)>

**Cc:** Rayner, Jena MAH:EX <[Jena.Rayner@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Jena.Rayner@gov.bc.ca)>; White, Christine MAH:EX <[Christine.White@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Christine.White@gov.bc.ca)>; Billingham, Stephanie MAH:EX <[Stephanie.Billingham@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Stephanie.Billingham@gov.bc.ca)>; Kubisheski, Carlee MAH:EX <[Carlee.Kubisheski@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Carlee.Kubisheski@gov.bc.ca)>

**Subject:** RE: Briefing Materials | DAPR Priorities and Emergency Program Act Modernization |  
Briefing Date: July 29

Good morning Molly, staff have advised that MSR verbally approved/supported the following four DBNS discussed in yesterday's briefing; can you please confirm if I can finalize with MSR's e-signature?

1. DBN #255864: Modernization of the Emergency Program Act;
2. DBN #256113: Development Approvals Process Review – s.12; s.13 and
3. DBN #256042: s.12; s.13
4. DBN #256272:

Thank you,

**From:** Hitchen, Daniel MAH:EX

**Sent:** July 24, 2020 4:45 PM

**To:** Ashbourne, Craig MAH:EX <[Craig.Ashbourne@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Craig.Ashbourne@gov.bc.ca)>; Henry, Molly MAH:EX <[Molly.Henry@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Molly.Henry@gov.bc.ca)>; Ducker, Jayne MAH:EX <[Jayne.Ducker@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Jayne.Ducker@gov.bc.ca)>

**Cc:** Rayner, Jena MAH:EX <[Jena.Rayner@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Jena.Rayner@gov.bc.ca)>; White, Christine MAH:EX <[Christine.White@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Christine.White@gov.bc.ca)>; Gedney, Vanessa R MAH:EX <[Vanessa.Gedney@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Vanessa.Gedney@gov.bc.ca)>; Billingham, Stephanie MAH:EX <[Stephanie.Billingham@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Stephanie.Billingham@gov.bc.ca)>; Kubisheski, Carlee MAH:EX <[Carlee.Kubisheski@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Carlee.Kubisheski@gov.bc.ca)>

**Subject:** Briefing Materials | DAPR Priorities and Emergency Program Act Modernization |

Briefing Date: July 29

**Importance:** High

Good afternoon:

Three of four BN's for the briefing on July 29<sup>th</sup> have been uploaded to the WebDAV for review. We are expecting the fourth on Monday.

**Issue** DAPR Priorities and Emergency Program Act Modernization

**Date** July 29, 2020

**Time** 2:30pm-3:30pm

**Location** MS Teams: [Link](#)

**Material** MIN IBN, MIN DBN x4

**Staff Support** Silas Brownsey, Jessica Brooks, Lee Nicol

Thank you.

**Dan Hitchen** | Documents Coordinator

Deputy Minister's Office

Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing

**From:** [Wilkins, Christina MAH:EX](#)  
**To:** ["mroberts@bcmsa.ca"](#)  
**Cc:** [Minister, PSSG PSSG:EX](#); [Andrade, Ana MAH:EX](#); [McCabe, Kate MAH:EX](#); [Faganello, Tara MAH:EX](#)  
**Bcc:** [Pape-Salmon, Andrew OHCS:EX](#)  
**Subject:** Ministerial Order M192 - Local Government Meetings  
**Date:** August 6, 2020 4:54:04 PM  
**Attachments:** [255576 Roberts Outgoing.pdf](#)  
[Ministerial Order M192 - Local Government Meetings -INCOMING.pdf](#)

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**This message is being forwarded to you on behalf of Tara Faganello, Assistant Deputy Minister of the Local Government Division, Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing**

Good afternoon,

Please see the letter attached.

Thank you.

Tara Faganello, CPA CGA BA Ec.

Assistant Deputy Minister

Local Government Division

Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing

and Inspector of Municipalities

**From:** [Minister, MAH MAH:EX](#)  
**To:** [Correspondence Services MAH:EX](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Refer to MAH  
**Date:** June 25, 2020 12:40:17 PM  
**Attachments:** [Image.png](#)

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**From:** Dunn, Noreen PSSG:EX <[Noreen.Dunn@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Noreen.Dunn@gov.bc.ca)>  
**Sent:** June 25, 2020 10:51 AM  
**To:** Rayner, Jena MAH:EX <[Jena.Rayner@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Jena.Rayner@gov.bc.ca)>  
**Subject:** FW: Refer to MAH

Redirecting to MAH

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**From:** Mike Roberts <[mroberts@bcmsa.ca](mailto:mroberts@bcmsa.ca)>  
**Sent:** June 24, 2020 8:40 AM  
**To:** Minister, PSSG PSSG:EX <[PSSG.Minister@gov.bc.ca](mailto:PSSG.Minister@gov.bc.ca)>  
**Subject:** Refer to MAH

**CAUTION:** This email originated from outside of the organization. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Good morning.

I am writing on behalf of the health and safety for local government. My name is Mike Roberts and I am the Executive Director for the BC Municipal Safety Association.

I am hoping you can assist with an issue we have developing around physical distancing around council meetings.

Please see our concern:

The Province has enacted a Ministerial Order M192 - Local Government Meetings and Bylaw Process that is causing significant pressure on our staged business resumptions plans (see attached). The Order in part requires open meetings (in person) - see Division 2 - Open Meetings, Section 3, Open meetings - municipalities. Other sections apply to regional districts and improvement districts.

Our members have contacted BCMSA noting that we would appreciate information from WorkSafeBC regarding their interpretation of "a council ... must use best efforts to allow members of the public to attend an open meeting of the council or body in a manner that is consistent with any applicable requirements or recommendations made under the *Public Health Act*." Additionally, what would WorkSafeBC deem "the best efforts of the



council or body" considering the General duties of the owner under the Workers Compensation Act to "provide and maintain the owner's land and premises that are being used in a manner that ensures the health and safety of persons at or near the workplace". As we know, the interpretation of this portion of the Act is that it applies to not only workers but also the public through the use of the word "persons".

Some of our concerns include:

- Public hearing can easily result in an event with greater than 50 attendees.. Limiting attendees can result in concerns regarding the "free and democratic society" noted on the cover page of the Order.
- As we are currently responding to a global pandemic, having in person meetings can inadvertently prevent members of [vulnerable populations](#) (as defined by BCCDC) from attending.
- The BCCDC recommends "staying home and avoiding large gatherings" to members of this population (see link above).

We are quite confused by the Province's approach and how it links with the PHO Orders and Guidance and WorkSafeBC Protocols.

We reached out to WorkSafeBC and they advised us that they are following the direction of the PHO.

Can you please help to clarify.

Sincerely,

**Mike Roberts**

Executive Director

**BC MUNICIPAL SAFETY ASSOCIATION**

20430 Fraser Hwy, Langley, BC V3A 4G2

T: [778-278-3486](tel:778-278-3486) | F: [778-278-0029](tel:778-278-0029)

E: [mroberts@bcmsa.ca](mailto:mroberts@bcmsa.ca) | [bcmsa.ca](http://bcmsa.ca)

Sent from my iPhone

**From:** [Hitchen, Daniel MAH:EX](#)  
**To:** [Wempe, Sarah MAH:EX](#)  
**Subject:** RE: Meeting with Mayor of Vernon - June 26 @ 10AM  
**Date:** June 25, 2020 3:29:44 PM

---

Thanks!

Dan Hitchen|Documents Coordinator  
Deputy Minister's Office  
Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing

-----Original Message-----

From: Wempe, Sarah MAH:EX <Sarah.Wempe@gov.bc.ca>  
Sent: June 25, 2020 2:12 PM  
To: Hitchen, Daniel MAH:EX <Daniel.Hitchen@gov.bc.ca>  
Cc: Lewthwaite, Jennifer MAH:EX <Jennifer.Lewthwaite@gov.bc.ca>; Gedney, Vanessa R MAH:EX <Vanessa.Gedney@gov.bc.ca>  
Subject: RE: Meeting with Mayor of Vernon - June 26 @ 10AM

Attached note for MSR's meeting with the Mayor of Vernon tomorrow, approved by Silas.

Thanks!

-----Original Message-----

From: Hitchen, Daniel MAH:EX <Daniel.Hitchen@gov.bc.ca>  
Sent: June 24, 2020 4:31 PM  
To: Wempe, Sarah MAH:EX <Sarah.Wempe@gov.bc.ca>  
Cc: Lewthwaite, Jennifer MAH:EX <Jennifer.Lewthwaite@gov.bc.ca>; Gedney, Vanessa R MAH:EX <Vanessa.Gedney@gov.bc.ca>  
Subject: FW: Meeting with Mayor of Vernon - June 26 @ 10AM  
Importance: High

Hi Sarah, can you please ask staff if they're able to come up with materials by tomorrow for this phone call on Friday? Please see below for details. Thank you.

Dan Hitchen|Documents Coordinator  
Deputy Minister's Office  
Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing

-----Original Message-----

From: Andrade, Ana MAH:EX <Ana.Andrade@gov.bc.ca>  
Sent: June 24, 2020 4:26 PM  
To: Hitchen, Daniel MAH:EX <Daniel.Hitchen@gov.bc.ca>  
Cc: Wilkins, Christina MAH:EX <Christina.Wilkins@gov.bc.ca>; McCabe, Kate MAH:EX <Kate.McCabe@gov.bc.ca>; Gedney, Vanessa R MAH:EX <Vanessa.Gedney@gov.bc.ca>  
Subject: RE: Meeting with Mayor of Vernon - June 26 @ 10AM

Does this have to do with public hearing? If so it would go to Silas, and Jessica Brooks.

-----Original Message-----

From: Hitchen, Daniel MAH:EX <Daniel.Hitchen@gov.bc.ca>  
Sent: June 24, 2020 4:10 PM  
To: Andrade, Ana MAH:EX <Ana.Andrade@gov.bc.ca>  
Cc: Wilkins, Christina MAH:EX <Christina.Wilkins@gov.bc.ca>; McCabe, Kate MAH:EX <Kate.McCabe@gov.bc.ca>; Gedney, Vanessa R MAH:EX <Vanessa.Gedney@gov.bc.ca>



Subject: Meeting with Mayor of Vernon - June 26 @ 10AM  
Importance: High

Hi Ana, the MO is asking if we can provide mats for this meeting on Friday morning. Can you please forward to staff and see if they're able to whip something up by tomorrow and then let me know?

Thank you.

Dan Hitchen|Documents Coordinator  
Deputy Minister's Office  
Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing

-----Original Message-----

From: White, Christine MAH:EX <Christine.White@gov.bc.ca>  
Sent: June 24, 2020 4:03 PM  
To: Hitchen, Daniel MAH:EX <Daniel.Hitchen@gov.bc.ca>  
Cc: Gedney, Vanessa R MAH:EX <Vanessa.Gedney@gov.bc.ca>  
Subject: FW: Telephone call

Dan,

We set up a call with the Mayor of Vernon on Friday at 10:00am for 15 minutes. We did not have a precise topic until this came in just recently - upon review, we are wondering if staff can provide anything for materials on this for us in such a tight turnaround? Even some high level bullets?

Let me know.

Thanks,

Christine White  
Administrative Coordinator to the  
Honourable Selina Robinson  
Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing Room 310, Parliament Buildings  
Cell: 250.812.8894 | Office: 778.974.6045

-----Original Message-----

From: Will Pearce <WPearce@vernon.ca>  
Sent: June 24, 2020 3:09 PM  
To: MAH DMO MAH:EX <MAH.DMO@gov.bc.ca>; White, Christine MAH:EX <Christine.White@gov.bc.ca>  
Cc: Mayor <Mayor@vernon.ca>; Patti Bridal <PBridal@vernon.ca>; Keri-Ann Austin <KAustin@vernon.ca>; Maria Doyle <MDoyle@vernon.ca>  
Subject: Telephone call

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Good afternoon.

Mayor Victor Cumming, Vernon, has requested an opportunity to have a discussion with the Minister regarding Public Hearings. This arose at the Minister's last conference call with local municipalities.

The call is scheduled for 10am, Friday.

We are very appreciative.

In preparation for the phone discussion, kindly let me briefly explain the issue.

s.13; s.14

The written comments on the comments may be submitted up to 3pm the day of the SECOND public hearing on the subject application. Normally one or two weeks later.

Council considers the written comments on the comments, and all other information received including the presentations from the FIRST public hearing and written submissions received prior to the opening of the first public hearing...at the second public hearing. There are no in person presentations permitted at the second public hearing...otherwise we are in an endless loop.

Council reconvenes into the second public hearing. Public are permitted to attend. Council debates the merits of the application and all received comments. The public hearing is closed. Council convenes in open public format and generally makes a decision (third reading).

All those who feel they have an interest in the application may submit written comments PRIOR to the first public hearing (up to 3pm the day of the public hearing). The written comments are attached to the application for members of Council, are available in a binder in the public hearing for public viewing, and the writer is read into the record.

s.13

I have attached photos of actions we have taken. Public Hearings have been moved into much larger facilities (an auditorium) to accommodate up to 50 persons and meet or exceed all social distancing guidelines of the PHO.

There is a public hand washing facility at the entrance. This is clearly signed (the sign is just to the right and out of the picture) and requires attendees to wash their hands before entering the facility. Hand sanitation is available at the podium (pictured). The mic is sanitized. Public seating is a minimum 6' apart. The main entrance is clearly signed with COVID practices (minimum 6' distancing, hand washing, hand sanitation, etc). The entrance has lineup wait stations clearly marked (6' apart). The intent of course is to provide a safe environment for public attendance.

s.13

If this is common and a requirement of the Ministry we understand. The Mayor is seeking guidance from the Minister. The second public hearing introduces a whole new level of work and expense.

We sincerely appreciate your time and that of the Minister.

Should you have any questions we can answer them during the call or kindly contact me prior to the call.

Many thanx.

Will Pearce  
CAO, Vernon  
250-308-2037

City of Vernon Disclaimer: This transmission (including any attachments) may contain confidential information, privileged material (including material protected by the FOI act or other applicable privileges), or constitute non-public information. Any use of this information by anyone other than the intended recipient is prohibited. If you have received this transmission in error, please immediately reply to the sender and delete this information from

your system. Use, dissemination, distribution, or reproduction of this transmission by unintended recipients is not authorized and may be unlawful.

**From:** [newsRob Gay](#)  
**To:** [MAH DMO MAH:EX](#)  
**Subject:** Re: Update from Kaye Krishna, Deputy Minister, Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing - Order M192  
**Date:** June 18, 2020 9:30:12 AM

---

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

thank you and we will follow -up with a board resolution as mentioned.  
Rob C. Gay  
Board Chair & Director Electoral Area C  
Regional District of East Kootenay

On Thu, Jun 18, 2020 at 10:23 AM MAH DMO MAH:EX <MAH.DMO@gov.bc.ca> wrote:

>  
>  
>  
> Dear CAOs:  
>  
> On June 17, 2020, MO139 was replaced with Order M192 to assist local governments as they move through the restart process towards a “new normal”. The primary changes under Order M192 are in relation to public presence at local government meetings and timing requirements for bylaw adoption. All other previous provisions under MO139 such as conducting public hearings electronically, allowing for Council, Boards and the Islands Trust to meet electronically and deferring improvement district annual general meetings, remain in effect under Order M192. Other rules such those as provided for in legislation or procedure bylaws such as: notice requirements, voting rules, minutes also continue to apply.  
>  
> As you are aware, the previous order made it possible for local governments to meet without the public physically present – a significant departure from the standard rules that apply to council and board meetings. Order M192 continues to provide local governments flexibility in their meeting procedures while moving towards increased public presence at local government meetings where appropriate, for both “in person” and electronic meetings. The Order also transitions local governments to more standard rules in relation to bylaw adoption, limiting the previous order’s broad authority to read and adopt bylaws all at the same meeting to now only apply to the types of bylaws specified in Order M192.  
>  
> Many local governments are already taking an incremental approach to again holding meetings in person and inviting their communities to be physically present at meetings, while complying with public health and safety direction. To encourage this transition, Order M192 requires local governments and the Islands Trust to make best efforts to accommodate the public to be present at in person or electronic meetings while continuing to meet public health orders and recommendations.  
>  
> Local governments that have made best efforts and continue to face challenges having the public present at meetings due to things like facility size or technological limitations will continue to be able to limit in person attendance at electronic and physical meetings under the Order. In that case, under Order M192 local governments will need to pass a resolution to provide a rationale of the reasons why the public cannot be present, as well as a description of the means by which the local government is meeting openness, transparency and accountability principles.  
>  
> The following link provides additional guidance material to local governments that may be operating under the new Order M192: <https://www2.gov.bc.ca/assets/download/A5B73B9507D64C4BBF79843F06043042>  
>

> Link to Order M192: [http://www.bclaws.ca/civix/document/id/mo/mo/2020\\_m192](http://www.bclaws.ca/civix/document/id/mo/mo/2020_m192)  
>  
> Any additional questions can be directed to: [lggovernance@gov.bc.ca](mailto:lggovernance@gov.bc.ca). We thank you for your continued hard work to conduct local government operations as you restart during the time of the pandemic.  
>  
>  
>  
> Kaye Krishna  
>  
> Deputy Minister  
>  
> Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing  
>  
>



**From:** [MAH DMO MAH:EX](#)  
**Subject:** Update from Kaye Krishna, Deputy Minister, Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing - Order M192  
**Date:** June 18, 2020 9:23:28 AM  
**Attachments:** [2020-06-17 Open Meetings Guidance.pdf](#)

---

Dear CAOs:

On June 17, 2020, MO139 was replaced with Order M192 to assist local governments as they move through the restart process towards a “new normal”. The primary changes under Order M192 are in relation to public presence at local government meetings and timing requirements for bylaw adoption. All other previous provisions under MO139 such as conducting public hearings electronically, allowing for Council, Boards and the Islands Trust to meet electronically and deferring improvement district annual general meetings, remain in effect under Order M192. Other rules such as those as provided for in legislation or procedure bylaws such as: notice requirements, voting rules, minutes also continue to apply.

As you are aware, the previous order made it possible for local governments to meet without the public physically present – a significant departure from the standard rules that apply to council and board meetings. Order M192 continues to provide local governments flexibility in their meeting procedures while moving towards increased public presence at local government meetings where appropriate, for both “in person” and electronic meetings. The Order also transitions local governments to more standard rules in relation to bylaw adoption, limiting the previous order’s broad authority to read and adopt bylaws all at the same meeting to now only apply to the types of bylaws specified in Order M192.

Many local governments are already taking an incremental approach to again holding meetings in person and inviting their communities to be physically present at meetings, while complying with public health and safety direction. To encourage this transition, Order M192 requires local governments and the Islands Trust to make best efforts to accommodate the public to be present at in person or electronic meetings while continuing to meet public health orders and recommendations.

Local governments that have made best efforts and continue to face challenges having the public present at meetings due to things like facility size or technological limitations will continue to be able to limit in person attendance at electronic and physical meetings under the Order. In that case, under Order M192 local governments will need to pass a resolution to provide a rationale of the reasons why the public cannot be present, as well as a description of the means by which the local government is meeting openness, transparency and accountability principles.

The following link provides additional guidance material to local governments that may be operating under the new Order M192:

<https://www2.gov.bc.ca/assets/download/A5B73B9507D64C4BBF79843F06043042>

Link to Order M192: [http://www.bclaws.ca/civix/document/id/mo/mo/2020\\_m192](http://www.bclaws.ca/civix/document/id/mo/mo/2020_m192)

Any additional questions can be directed to: [lggovernance@gov.bc.ca](mailto:lggovernance@gov.bc.ca). We thank you for your continued hard work to conduct local government operations as you restart during the time of the pandemic.

Kaye Krishna  
Deputy Minister  
Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing