

REGIONAL DISTRICT OF NANAIMO

**COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE
TUESDAY, MAY 11, 2010**

**CIRCULATED REPORT
FOR AGENDA**

PAGES

DEVELOPMENT SERVICES

BUILDING & BYLAW

2 - 4 Building Inspection Service - Public Consultation Plan for Proposed Expansion.



CAO APPROVAL	
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COV	4/11/10
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BOARD	

MEMORANDUM

TO: Carol Mason
Chief Administrative Officer

DATE: May 10, 2010

FROM: Paul Thorkelsson
General Manager, Development Services

FILE: 3800 00

SUBJECT: Public Consultation Plan for RDN Building Inspection Service Expansion

PURPOSE

To propose, for consideration by the RDN Board, a framework of public consultation events on the proposed expansion of building inspection within the electoral areas.

BACKGROUND

Starting in September 2009, staff, as directed by the RDN Board, has undertaken a review of building inspection and alternatives to 'traditional' building inspection service in the non-building inspection areas of the region. This process culminated in a number of policy changes and proposed bylaw amendments for consideration by the Board. At the April 27, 2010 meeting of the Board where the following motion was passed:

MOVED Director Young, SECONDED Director Rudischer, that "Regional District of Nanaimo Building Inspection Extended Service Bylaw Amendment Bylaw No. 787.13, 2010" be tabled until further discussion and public consultation has occurred.

With this direction from the Board, staff provide the following alternatives for public consultation.

ALTERNATIVES

1. The RDN to open satellite offices in appropriate locations in each of the electoral areas affected by the proposed expansion of building inspection service (Areas A, C, F and H)
2. The RDN to host public information meetings (PIM) in each of the electoral areas affected by the proposed expansion of building inspection service (Areas A, C, F and H)
3. The RDN undertake a combination of Alternative 1 and 2 and where appropriate, combine satellite office openings and PIM events in individual electoral areas to share locations and resources.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Alternative 1

It is expected that facility rental for offices would be expected to cost \$100 - \$120 per day. The offices would be attended by staff under the existing complement. Some additional wage costs may apply for CUPE staff working outside of regular hours, though these costs can be accommodated within the

existing 2010 budgets. There is not currently funding within the building inspection budget for this consultation initiative.

Alternative 2

Similar to the establishment of office locations, it is expected that facility rental for PIM locations would be expected to cost \$100 - \$125 per event. Some staff overtime may apply which can be accommodated in existing budgets. This cost for PIMs are not currently included within the established 2010 budgets.

Alternative 3

The financial implications of this alternative are essentially similar to those for Alternative 1 and 2 and are dependent on the combination of events and/or locations. The main financial benefit of this alternative is the potential it introduces in more efficient use of resources through combined events.

CONCLUSIONS

The RDN has used both the establishment of satellite offices and PIMs as effective consultation tools for a variety of initiatives. As the Board is aware, the effectiveness of any consultation methodology is quite variable - a process successful on one issue may have less impact on a subsequent topic. The issue of expanding building inspection is a highly controversial and emotionally charged issue in some areas.

Under the present circumstances, staff recommend that the Board consider Alternative No. 3 and direct staff to hold a series of satellite office openings and public information meetings. In light of the established 2010 budgets, staff support the notion of combining consultation in Electoral Areas 'A' and 'C', as they can be most easily accommodated by a single location. The following events and locations/times are recommended for the Board's consideration:

Electoral Areas 'A', 'C'

- Cranberry Firehall – 1555 Morden Road South
- May 20 8:00 am to 2:00 pm – office
- May 21 12:00 pm to 6:00 pm – office
- June 10 6:00 pm to 8:00 pm – public information meeting

Electoral Area 'F'

- Bradley Centre – 975 Shearme Road, Coombs, BC
- May 27 8:00 am to 2:00 pm – office
- May 28 12:00 pm to 6:00 pm – office
- June 9 6:00 pm to 8:00 pm – public information meeting

Electoral Area 'H'

- Lighthouse Community Centre – 240 Lions Way, Qualicum Bay, BC
- June 3 8:00 am to 2:00 pm – office
- June 4 12:00 pm to 6:00 pm – office
- June 7 6:00 pm to 8:00 pm – public information meeting

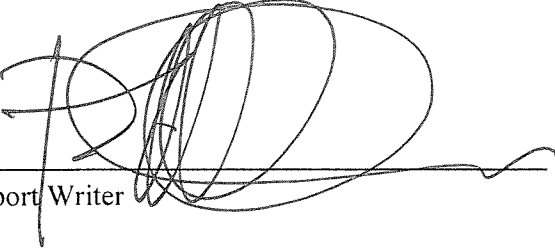
These events will provide significant opportunity for residents to gain further knowledge and understanding of the proposed service expansion in addition to the opportunity to provide input for the Board's consideration. All of the events will be structured similarly and provide the same information to


residents, widely advertised in the local media and provide a number of opportunities for participation. Directors of the RDN Board are welcome and encouraged to attend any of all of the events to gain first hand view into the process. Following the completion of the events as outlined, staff will report back to the Board regarding significant issues raised and any opportunities and options available to address those concerns.

All of the suggested facilities have been tentatively booked for the dates and times as outlined – allowing for advertising for the events to get underway as quickly as possible following direction from this committee.

RECOMMENDATION

1. That staff be directed to proceed with Alternative No. 3 as outline in the report.
2. That staff be directed to undertake the advertising of the events as outlined in the report.


Report Writer


C.A.O. Concurrence

COMMENTS: