

Service Efficiency and Effectiveness

Status Report

Service: Grants for Assistance and Directors' Discretionary Funds

As at: July 19, 2018

The Local Government Act and CRD Policy No.s D2.1 to D2.7 authorize the board to provide assistance to applicants who provide verified benefits to communities and have a demonstrated need for assistance. Grants are meant to be used to assist with special projects as opposed to providing funds for on-going operating expenses, and are not meant to replace the financial responsibilities of other levels of government. The CRD has both Statutory and Budgetary limitations on the amount of funds to be made available as Grants for Assistance. Effort is made to ensure that grants are distributed fairly and equitably, and that the Board does not expose itself to any liabilities associated with projects or groups.

North Cariboo Electoral Area Directors elected to make sizeable contributions to the Quesnel Community Foundation and (for the most part) discontinue direct award of Grants for Assistance on an annual basis. South Cariboo Electoral Area Directors made significant contributions to the South Cariboo Community Enhancement Foundation while maintaining annual awarding of grants at historical levels.

An annual intake process for grants for assistance takes place in the fall, and the following year's budget includes tax requisitions sufficient to fund Grant awards. In addition, Electoral Area Directors can make a requisition to maintain an annual maximum fund of \$5,000 for the purposes of awarding grants which are not able to be accommodated in the annual intake process. These grants awarded outside of the annual intake window replace amounts formerly distributed as Electoral Area Director Discretionary Funds.

All Electoral Area Directors are responsible for the governance of grants for assistance.

The Local Government Act and CRD Policy No. D3.1 authorize the board to establish services to cover the costs of:

- Directors' attendance at seminars and workshops,
- Directors' meetings in their Electoral Areas relating to topics of interest for constituents,
- Directors' travel outside of the Region for special initiatives of importance to EA's, and
- Retirement gifts and luncheons as Recognition for Long Service by members of CRD commissions.

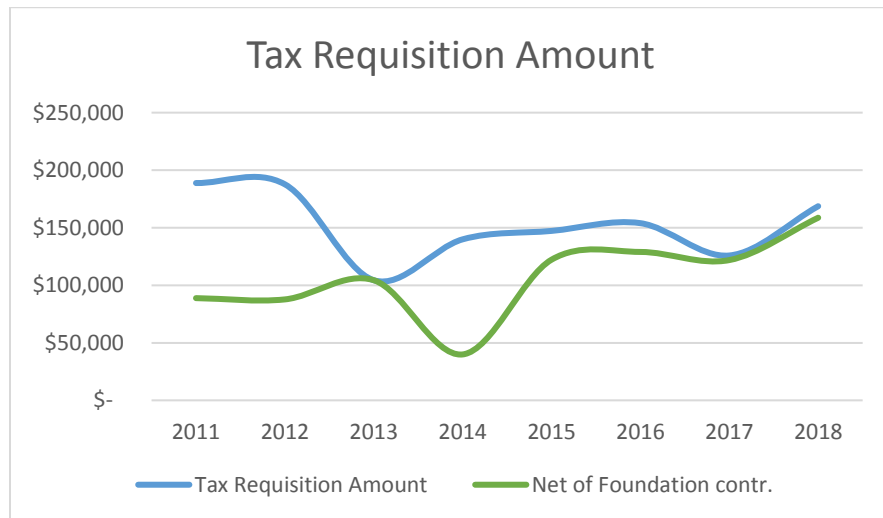
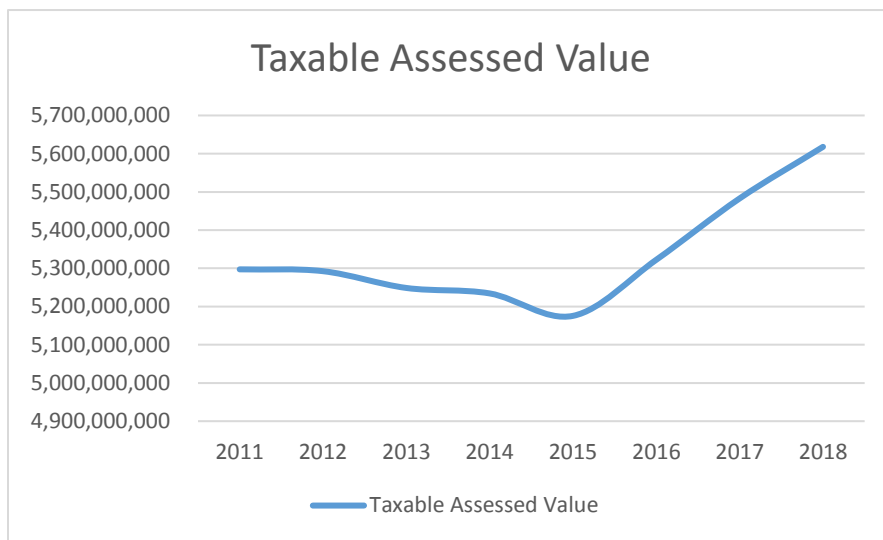
Director Initiative Services exist for all electoral areas. Directors request funding as part of the budgeting process each year. The maximum annual allowable fund is \$5,000.

As each Director Initiative Fund has only a single stakeholder, and the Local Government Act requires more than one vote, all Electoral Area Directors are responsible for the governance of Director Electoral Area Administration (Director Initiative) Services.

The line between Director Initiative Funds and Grants for Assistance can be blurred. CRD Policy has been waived a number of times to facilitate the award of grants which are not compliant with current policy.

These Services have no assets, not capital reserves, and no associated debt. Operating surpluses arise only where year round GFA and/or Director Initiative Funds are not fully allocated during the year (maximum \$10,000 per Electoral Area).

Grants for Assistance and Director Initiatives combined



Tax Requisition Rate

