



**Date:** 05/05/2021

**To:** Chair and Directors, Cariboo Regional District Board

**And To:** John MacLean, Chief Administrative Officer

**From:** Alice Johnston, Manager of Corporate Services/Deputy CAO

**Date of Meeting:** Cariboo Regional District Board\_May07\_2021

**File:** 4210-20-21-01

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## **Short Summary:**

Ministerial Order No. 186 – Request for Authorization to Apply the Exceptions

## **Voting:**

Corporate Vote - Unweighted

## **Memorandum:**

As the Board is aware, the CRD will be conducting an assent vote in the north Cariboo in June. In an effort to protect election officials and members of the public during the pandemic by reducing in-person interactions and high touch points at polling stations, the CRD has applied for and received a Ministerial Order to conduct the upcoming Arts and Recreation Centre Pool Upgrade Assent Vote in a manner inconsistent with the *Local Government Act* and CRD Election and Assent Voting Bylaw No. 5149, 2018.

The Ministerial Order is attached for the Board's reference and gives the CRD authorization to extend mail ballot voting to all electors and for the Chief Election Officer to establish timelines and procedures around the mail ballot process. It also authorizes electors who choose to attend a polling station in person to make their eligibility declaration orally rather than having to sign the voting book. In order for the Chief Election Officer to apply these changes, the Board must pass a resolution authorizing them to do so.

This item is included at late publishing due to the time-sensitive nature of the issue.

## **Attachments:**

Ministerial Order No. 186

## **Financial Implications:**

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## **Policy Implications:**

n/a

### Alignment with Strategic Plan:

- ☐ **Communication:** Facilitate communication strategies throughout the entire Cariboo Regional District that meet the needs of residents, community stakeholders, and other levels of government.
- ☐ **Planning:** Intentionally plan services and activities of the CRD to prepare for future needs of residents and community stakeholders.
- ☐ **Economic Sustainability:** Foster an environment to ensure the economic sustainability of CRD communities and the region.
- ☐ **Governance:** Ensure that CRD governance policy and practices are intentional, transparent, and respectful.

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### CAO Comments:

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### Options:

- 1) Endorse the recommendation;
- 2) Receipt and other action.

### Recommendation:

That the agenda item summary from Alice Johnston, Manager of Corporate Services/Deputy CAO, dated May 5, 2021, with attached Ministerial Order No. 186, be received. Further, that the Chief Election Officer is hereby authorized to apply the Order to the upcoming Arts and Recreation Centre Pool Upgrade Assent Vote in the North Cariboo in June 2021.