Chair report up to & including July 6/22

This is a short report due to my 2-week vacation. If there are any questions or concerns, please feel free to raise them with me.

- On July 8, CAO MacLean and I at the request of MLA Doerkson, met with representatives from the Deka Lake Ratepayers group. The conversation was lively, and continued to revolve around the lack of dual usage of the Deka Lake Fire hall. CAO MacLean and I have committed to meeting with residents sometime in July, to find out what the whole community is interested in, and to hopefully move towards a solution for an accessible area for the groups to eventually meet. More discussions will be forthcoming.
- Another Flood and Wildfire review committee meeting was held on June 24, the first since the announcement of the postponement of sending the proposed EPA to the Legislature. Chair Sperling and I have raised several issues of concern regarding the proposed Act, and I have kept President Roodenburg, EA Rep McGregor and Co-Chair of the committee, Arjun Singh also informed of our concerns. We are hopeful there will be a meaningful discussion with Regional District Chairs at the upcoming UBCM, regarding the increased impact the new Act will have on RD's. Unfortunately, due to confidentiality I am unable to go into details on this issue.

 On June 28, Mayor Simpson & I were invited by President Roodenburg, to engage in a Teams call with representatives from New Brunswick, to discuss the advantage and disadvantage of Regional Districts and the relationships with the Municipalities within the region. New Brunswick is considering changing their Local Government structure to a similar model that operates within BC. On the call from New Brunswick was the Mayor of Grand Bay-Westfield, the President and CEO of UMNB, and John Mackenzie. I anticipate further calls with the same group as more questions arise as they move towards a difference governing structure.

Respectfully submitted,

Margo Away