

Date: 22/06/2023

To: Chair and Directors, Committee of the Whole

And To: Murray Daly, Chief Administrative Officer

From: Gerald Pinchbeck, Manager of Communications

Date of Meeting: Committee of the Whole_Jun22_2023

File: 0500-20-2023

Short Summary:

Framework Discussion on Public Engagement Strategy

Background:

In its 2023-2026 Strategic Plan, the Board has committed to enhancing the Regional District's communications and engagement efforts to "foster increased awareness, understanding and support on the part of our citizens and [offer] community perspectives and input to better-inform decisions of the Board". As part of this commitment, the Board has set an objective to develop a comprehensive Communications and Engagement policy and framework, developed with input from citizens, partners, and rights holders to guide these efforts.

In preparing for this, a framework conversation is necessary to provide the Board with an opportunity to consider the preliminary policy options and impacts of changes to how the Regional District engages. This represents the first phase in developing a comprehensive engagement framework and documented through an Engagement Strategy.

A presentation will be provided to the Committee of the Whole which provides an overview of public participation and engagement principles and considerations, followed by an opportunity to dissect the subject matter further. In doing so, the Board should consider the following questions:

1. Why are we choosing to change our approach to engagement?
2. What are we doing well that we want to do more of?
3. What have we done that we want to do better at?
4. What are we not doing that we want to start doing?
5. What limits do we want on our commitment to engage?
6. How do we better incorporate engagement into our decision making?
7. What are the respective roles of the Board, its Committees, and staff in planning for and carrying out engagement?

Attachments:

Presentation – Framework Discussion on Public Engagement Strategy (will be added at late publishing)

Receipt Only:

That the memorandum from Gerald Pinchbeck, Manager of Communications dated June 22, 2023, regarding Framework Discussion on Public Engagement Strategy, be received.