

**From:** [Douglas Holmes](#)  
**To:** [Douglas Holmes](#)  
**Subject:** Legislative Reform Initiative  
**Date:** May 17, 2024 8:50:39 AM  
**Attachments:** [Letter of Support Model - Legislative Reform \(003\).docx](#)  
[Chair Craig letter - Legislative Reform Initiative Update, 19 Jan 2024.pdf](#)  
[What We Heard - Sept 21 2023 Legislative Reform Session.pdf](#)  
[MUNI Proposed response to RDN for UBCM presentation final.pdf](#)  
[Memo to Board - Update on Legislative Reform Initiative March 22 2024.docx](#)

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Good morning, fellow CAOs.

As many of you will have seen, the Regional District of Nanaimo (RDN) has been leading, in collaboration with some of you, the conversation for a proposed reform/rewrite of the *Local Government Act*.

We have sponsored several sessions on this topic at both UBCM and AVICC, (Association of Vancouver Island and Coastal Communities). This work has been generously supported (including on the panel sessions) by Don Lidstone.

I am writing today to invite your local government to endorse this work through writing a letter of support. RDN Chair Vanessa Craig has sent a letter to your Mayors and Chairs making this request and I have attached that letter with background materials as well as a draft letter of support for you to use, should that be helpful. A sincere thank you to those local governments who have provided letters of support already.

Nothing will change if this matter is not seen to have political support around the Province. Letters from your local governments will help to demonstrate that support.

We have heard concerns that new legislation will mean more work at a time when we are already very busy. I wish to remind us all that our legislation is *enabling*, meaning that our Local Governments access the powers that our elected officials have decided are useful to the constituencies they serve. We sincerely hope that new and more flexible powers are made available through legislative reform; powers that our local governments *can* access, but don't have to.

Thank you for your consideration in your already-busy day.

Very best regards,  
Doug.

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*We acknowledge that for thousands of years the Coast Salish First Nations have been deeply*

*connected to the territories where we now work.*

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