

**DATE:** May 20, 2021

**FILE:** 0550-04

**TO:** Chair and Directors  
Regional District Board

**FROM:** Russell Dyson  
Chief Administrative Officer

Supported by Russell Dyson  
Chief Administrative Officer

*R. Dyson*

**RE: Response to Requests from Cathy Peters regarding Human Trafficking**

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### **Purpose**

To respond to the requests of Cathy Peters concerning human-trafficking as presented through a delegation to the Comox Valley Regional District (CVRD) Board on May 11, 2021.

### **Recommendation from the Chief Administrative Officer:**

THAT the Comox Valley Regional District Board provide a letter of support to Cathy Peters, in support of her work to bring awareness to the issue of human sex trafficking, sexual exploitation and child sex trafficking in British Columbia;

AND FURTHER THAT the Comox Valley Regional District Board send a letter to the Premier and Solicitor General requesting resources and funding to address human sex trafficking, sexual exploitation and child sex trafficking in British Columbia, as per the requests from Cathy Peters at the May 11, 2021 Board meeting.

### **Executive Summary**

On May 11, 2021, the CVRD Board received a delegation from Cathy Peters, anti-human-trafficking educator, speaker and advocate. Ms. Peters made the following three requests of the Board:

- To speak to other stakeholders in our area;
- That the CVRD Board send a letter to ask the Premier and Solicitor General to treat the crime of human trafficking in BC as a priority; that funding is needed for provincial law enforcement; that BC needs a provincial awareness campaign; and that BC needs an inter-agency Human Sex Trafficking Task Force similar to what is available for drugs and gangs;
- That the CVRD Board provide a letter of support to Cathy Peters for her work as an anti-human-trafficking educator, speaker and advocate.

At the same meeting, the Board passed the following resolution:

“THAT staff bring a report back to the Board regarding the requests from the delegation by Cathy Peters in regards to advocating for actions to address sex trafficking, sexual exploitation and child sex trafficking in British Columbia.”

As the CVRD does not provide any services related to this subject, nor issue business licences, the Board providing the requested correspondence in an advocacy role is appropriate. In addition to providing the letters as requested, staff will follow up with Ms. Peters to share any relevant stakeholder contact information or provide other general assistance.

Prepared by:

Concurrence:

***L. Dennis***

***J. Martens***

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Lisa Dennis  
Manager of Legislative  
Services

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Jake Martens  
General Manager of  
Corporate Services