

## Economic Recovery Task Force Steering Committee

October 1, 2020

Comox Valley Regional District  
Electoral Areas Committee  
770 Harmston Avenue  
Courtenay, BC, V9N 0G8

Sent via email: [twarnes@comoxvalleyrd.ca](mailto:twarnes@comoxvalleyrd.ca)

Dear Electoral Area Committee,

### **Re: Economic Recovery Task Force - Industry Advisor Business Case Action Plan Submission Summary Report.**

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The Comox Valley Economic Recovery Task Force (ERTF), initiated by the Comox Valley Regional District Board, has been working with a wide range of Industry Advisors and businesses throughout the region to capture key recommendations on recovery measures that will set strategic direction for a strong and resilient economy for the Comox Valley. Submissions have been focused on actions and initiatives within an immediate time frame, (response during pandemic) and long term (recovery after pandemic).

At its September 24, 2020 Steering Committee meeting, the following motions were carried:

*“THAT the Comox Valley ERTF Steering Committee approve the recommended actions contained in the Industry Advisor Business Case Action Plan Submissions Report dated Sept 10, 2020 and,*

*THAT the Comox Valley ERTF Steering Committee provide a summary of projects that have potential for meeting the criteria of the Stronger BC Community Economic Recovery Infrastructure Program to local governments.*

*AND FURTHER THAT the report be forwarded to the Chair and Board of the CVRD, Mayors and Council of Comox , Courtenay, Cumberland, K’ómoks First Nation, the Chair of the EASC and representative of CFB Comox for consideration and action on the recommendations that are within their jurisdiction.”*

The report contains links to each submission received and considered to date by the ERTF. Submissions are grouped alphabetically by sector.

Please find the [report linked here](#) for your review and consideration. Recommended actions approved by the ERTF Steering Committee are colour coded as follows:

- Yellow: Actions for all, or a specific local government.  
Green: Actions that will require further consideration by CVRD for future CVEDS work plans and/or something requiring resources.  
Blue: Actions for consideration of the ERTF Steering Committee in regards to advocacy and/or general encouragement and support of submitted recommendations by Industry Advisors through the facilitation process.  
White: Actions that are currently in process and/or can be accommodated

At the October 1, 2020 ERTF Steering Committee meeting, 6 priority pillars for economic recovery were identified based on the many submissions to the taskforce from local business and industry advisors. The Priority Pillars include:

- Shop local / arts and culture support
- Agriculture and Food Security
- Tech / digital support for businesses
- Childcare
- Transportation and regional connectivity
- Streamline permitting process for businesses

These priority pillars for recovery will be further considered by the Steering Committee as part of its role in advancing immediate and longer term recovery strategies for the Comox Valley.

The Committee would like to draw attention to the [Community Economic Recovery Program Infrastructure Program \(CEIRP\)](#) that was developed by the Government of British Columbia to help communities in BC recover from the economic impacts experienced from Covid-19 as part of the implementation of the Building BC's Recovery Together Plan guiding economic recovery from the pandemic.

Based on industry submissions received to date, it would appear that a focus on a possible food hub would be an appropriate projections for the Electoral Areas for submission for this recovery grant program.

We would like to also extend a thank you to Director Edwin Grieve, and the Regional District for supporting a regional approach for economic recovery.

For full review of the Task Force Steering Committees information, please visit: [Economic Recovery Taskforce](#)

Sincerely,



City of Courtenay Mayor Bob Wells,

On behalf of the Co-Chairs,

Comox Valley Economic Recovery Task Force Steering Committee

cc: J. Watson, Executive Director, Comox Valley Economic Development