

DATE: November 20, 2018

FILE: 0230-20 / UBCM
0485-20 / KFN

TO: Chair and Directors
Committee of the Whole

FROM: Russell Dyson
Chief Administrative Officer

Supported by Russell Dyson
Chief Administrative Officer

R. Dyson

RE: 2019 Community to Community Forum with K'ómoks First Nation

Purpose

To seek board support for a proposed Community to Community Forum with Elected Officials and senior staff from the City of Courtenay, Town of Comox, Village of Cumberland, Comox Valley Regional District (CVRD) and the Chief and Council of the K'ómoks First Nation (KFN) planned for February 2019.

Recommendations from the Chief Administrative Officer:

THAT the Comox Valley Regional District Board support hosting the 2019 Community to Community forum;

AND FURTHER THAT the Comox Valley Regional District Board provide funding up to \$5,000 in cash or in kind to be funded 50/50 from the Comox Valley Regional District municipal administration (01-2-100-387) and electoral area administration (01-2-130-387) to organize the forum;

AND FINALLY THAT staff be authorized to send invitations to the councils of each member municipality and K'ómoks First Nation.

Executive Summary

The Community to Community (C2C) Forum Program is supported by the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing. The Union of British Columbia Municipalities (UBCM), with support by the First Nations Summit, administers the program and delivers funding to local governments and First Nations to facilitate government-to-government meetings to address common goals and undertake joint action. The CVRD last received C2C funding in 2015/2016 and hosted a forum in 2016. The CVRD has received preliminary grant approval in the amount of \$5,000 to host a forum in early 2019. The approval is subject to confirmation of CVRD Board support and confirmation of the KFN's willingness to participate. CVRD staff is working with KFN staff to obtain that confirmation as well as build the forum's agenda. The forum is intended to strengthen the CVRD and KFN government-to-government relationship building on recent successes such as the 2018 Elected Officials' Forum meetings and the water treatment project mutual benefit agreement, as well as identify additional topics of mutual interest and opportunities for partnership.

Prepared by:

A. Mullaly

 Alana Mullaly, M.Pl., MCIP, RPP
 Senior Manager of Planning
 and Protective Services

Concurrence:

S. Smith

 Scott Smith, MCIP, RPP
 General Manager of Planning and
 Development Services Branch
Stakeholder Distribution (Upon Agenda Publication)

K'ómoks First Nation	✓
Town of Comox	✓
City of Courtenay	✓
Village of Cumberland	✓

Background/Current Situation

Since 1999, the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing and Indigenous Services Canada have partnered to offer First Nations and local governments the opportunity to apply for funding host events under the C2C Forum Program. The goal of the program is to increase understanding and improve overall relations between First Nations and local governments. C2C events enable local government elected officials and senior staff to meet and discuss items of mutual interest and to identify opportunities to work together. Funding is administered through the UBCM.

In recent years, KFN (2014) and the CVRD (2015) have hosted the forum and covered topics such as the draft Regional Growth Strategy (RGS) implementation agreement and a review of the 2010 protocol agreement. The proposed 2019 forum provides an opportunity for newly elected officials and senior staff to continue relationship building, exchange information about governance structures, and knowledge sharing. It is our hope that the forum will provide for the continuation of a cooperative and collaborative government-to-government relationship that supports partnerships now and in the future.

UBCM matches up to \$5,000 in funding to assist local governments and First Nations in hosting these events. An application was made by CVRD staff in advance of a CVRD Board resolution in the interest of the funding application deadline, which was October 19, 2018. The CVRD has been approved in principle to host a 2019 event. The approval is subject to confirmation by KFN of a commitment to participate and receipt of a CVRD Board resolution supporting the proposed event including willingness to provide grant management.

Policy Analysis

The CVRD and the KFN signed a protocol agreement for communication and cooperation in 2010. Among other things, the protocol commits the CVRD and KFN to meet regularly to promote and encourage open and constructive dialogue based on mutual trust, honesty and respect.

There are a number of important agreements that have been struck since adoption of the protocol agreement, including the 2012 land use referral management program and the 2018 mutual benefit agreement that confirms cooperation and collaboration in the management of the region's water resources.

The forum is an opportunity to continue to implement the protocol agreement.

Options

The board has the following options:

1. Authorize CVRD staff to proceed with organizing the proposed forum in February 2019.
2. Direct staff not to proceed with a forum in 2019.

Staff recommends option 1.

Financial Factors

Maximum funding under UBCM's grant program is \$5,000 and the applicant is required to provide fifty percent (50 per cent) of the total eligible costs in cash or in-kind contributions. Staff proposes a budget of \$10,000 for the event, with \$5,000 coming from the UBCM grant funding and \$5,000 to be funded 50/50 from CVRD municipal administration (function 100) and electoral area administration (function 130).

Legal Factors

UBCM grant funding requires a final report to be submitted by the host to UBCM upon completion of the event. Note that the event must be held prior to March 31, 2019.

Regional Growth Strategy Implications

The forum is consistent with the intent of the RGS and could serve to advance development of an RGS implementation agreement as contemplated in the RGS.

Intergovernmental Factors

The C2C program is an initiative of the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing and Indigenous Services Canada. The forum provides an opportunity for government-to-government interaction. If the board accepts the recommendation to proceed with a forum in 2019, the CVRD's Chief Administrative Officer will work with KFN's administrator to build the forum agenda, select a facilitator and finalize event details. CVRD staff will send invitations to the KFN's Chief and Council, elders and senior staff. Similarly, CVRD staff will send invitations to the councils and senior staff of the member municipalities.

Interdepartmental Involvement

This initiative is being led by the Planning and Development Services Branch with support from the Corporate Services and Financial Services Branches.

Citizen/Public Relations

If the board supports staff's recommendation, planning staff will work with communications staff to coordinate a media release. The forum is an important tool in advancing the Truth and Reconciliation Commission's calls for local government action, specifically call #57:

“...to provide education to public servants on the history of aboriginal peoples, including the history and legacy of residential schools, the United Nations' Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, treaties and aboriginal rights, Indigenous law and Aboriginal-Crown relations. This will require skills-based training in intercultural competency, conflict resolution, human rights and anti-racism”.

Attachments: Appendix A – “C2C Forum Application to UBCM”



Regional Community to Community Forum Program

Phone: 250 356-2947 E-mail: lgps@ubcm.ca

Mail: 525 Government Street, Victoria, BC, V8V 0A8

2018/19 APPLICATION FORM

Please complete and return this form for forums to be held between April 1, 2018 and March 31, 2019. All questions are required to be answered by typing directly in this form.

The application deadlines for 2018/19 are:

- March 23, 2018. *For events between April 1, 2018 and March 31, 2019*
- June 1, 2018. *For events between June 18, 2018 and March 31, 2019*
- October 19, 2018. *For events between November 5, 2018 and March 31, 2019*

SECTION 1: Applicant Information

Applicant: Comox Valley Regional District

Complete Mailing Address: 600 Comox Road,
Courtenay, BC, V9N 3P6

Contact Person*: Alana Mullaly

Position: Senior Manager of Planning and
Protective Services

Phone: 250-334-6051

E-mail:
planningdevelopment@comoxvalleyrd.ca

* Contact person must be an authorized representative of the applying local government or First Nation

SECTION 2: Event Information

1. DATE(S) OF PROPOSED EVENT(S).

February 20, 2019

2. a) PROPOSED PARTICIPANTS. Please attach an additional page, if required.

- First Nation(s): K'omoks First Nation represented by Chief and Council, administrator, staff and elders.

Local Government(s): Comox Valley Regional District represented by City of Courtenay, Town of Comox, Village of Cumberland and Electoral Area Directors for "Baynes Sound - Denman/Hornby Islands" (electoral area 'A'), "Lazo North" (electoral area 'B'), and "Puntledge-Black Creek" (electoral area 'C'), and CAOs of the City of Courtenay, Town of Comox, Village of Cumberland and Comox Valley Regional District, and senior staff.

Other Participants:

b) CONFIRMATION OF PARTNERS.

Please attach written confirmation from each invited local government and/or First Nation that elected officials and/or senior staff have agreed to attend the planned forum. Confirmation can be in the form of a letter or e-mail. Written confirmations can be submitted after the application, but are required for grant approval.

3. DESCRIPTION. Please provide a description of the proposed forum. If more than one event is proposed, please include a rationale for multiple events and a description of each event.

A forum is proposed that will include a fulsome orientation for new and returning elected officials following local government election (October 2018) and K'omoks First Nation election (January 2019).

The forum will provide an opportunity for elected officials and senior staff to build relationships, exchange information and share cultural knowledge. Topics for discussion include K'omoks First Nation culture and history, governance and decision-making structure (both First Nations and local government), existing service agreements, recent KFN/CVRD water Mutual Benefit Agreement, treaty settlement and a refresh on protocol agreement. This forum intends to strengthen the relationship between governments for information exchange, shared capacity building and coordination of development initiatives. As well, the forum will support discussion on future service agreement opportunities serving to encourage cooperative approaches to long-term development, sustainability and regional planning.

The forum will help to provide for the continuation of a cooperative and collaborative government-to-government relationship that supports partnerships in the future.

Draft agenda attached.

4. OBJECTIVES. The objectives of the C2C Forum program are identified in Section 1 of the Program & Application Guide. Please describe how your forum(s) will meet these objectives.

To build stronger relationships that support effective dialogue and working relationships. A collaborative and cooperative government-to-government relationship will assist in developing and identifying opportunities for partnerships and general collaboration in decision-making.

5. INTENDED DELIVERABLES. Please describe the specific deliverables that your forum will be working towards:

- Relationship building and reconciliation. Please describe: This C2C forum would assist in maintaining the relationship between local government and KFN, while also supporting newly elected officials in understanding the existing protocols and the interests of both the KFN and the CVRD
- Coordinated emergency prevention, response and recovery. Please describe:
- Protocol Agreement (e.g. communications, dispute resolution, planning and development approval processes). Please describe: This forum will provide a "refresher" on the existing protocol agreement and referral management program, as well as raise the topic of implementation agreement(s) as a framework for future land use decision-making and servicing.
- Service Agreement (e.g. water, sewer, solid waste disposal or fire protection). Please describe:
- Memorandum of Understanding (e.g. protection of archaeological or environmental resources). Please describe:
- Joint project or plan (e.g. economic development, cultural initiative, youth engagement). Please describe:
- Other:

6. BUDGET. Amount of Request: \$5000

Please review 'Information on the Budget' in Section 5 of the Program & Application Guide and attach a budget in the same format as the sample budget.

7. REPEAT APPLICANTS ONLY.

Date of Last Forum: March 20, 2015

Progress: Please describe any improvements in the First Nation/local government relationship since your last C2C event and how the proposed event would build on the results of previous forums.

The CVRD and KFN have employed a protocol agreement and a referral management program for numerous land use referrals. Further, a series of elected officials' forums were undertaken in 2017/2018. Most recently, the CVRD and KFN signed a mutual benefit agreement confirming co-operation and collaboration in the management of water resources. The agreement makes provision for future servicing to key KFN lands in the south region and future participation of KFN in the governance structure of the Comox Valley water system. This forum would assist in maintaining the relationship between local government and KFN, while also supporting newly elected officials in understanding the existing protocols, agreements and the interests of both the CVRD and KFN.

SECTION 3: Signature (To be signed by Local Government or First Nation Applicant)

Applications are required to be signed by an authorized representative of the applicant. Please note all application materials may be shared with the Province of BC and Government of Canada.	
Name: <i>Alana Mullaly</i>	Title: <i>Senior Manager of Planning and Protective Services</i>
Signature: <i>[Handwritten Signature]</i>	Date: <i>October 18, 2018</i>

See Section 5 of the Program & Application Guide for complete application requirements. In addition to the Application Form, the following separate attachments are required to be submitted:

- Event budget(s).
- Confirmation of partners. Written confirmations can be submitted after the application, but are needed in order for grant approval and before funding will be advanced.
- Local government Council or Board resolution, or First Nation Band Council resolution, indicating support for the current proposed activities and willingness to provide overall grant management

Applications should be submitted as Word or PDF files. If you choose to submit your application by e-mail, hard copies do not need to follow.

Submit applications to Local Government Program Services, Union of BC Municipalities

E-mail: lgps@ubcm.ca or mail: 525 Government Street, Victoria, BC, V8V 0A8