

File: 5280-15

January 23, 2019

Chair and Directors
Committee of the Whole

Re: Woodstove Rebate Program

The Comox Valley Regional District (CVRD) administers a woodstove exchange program that is available to households with any wood stove manufactured prior to 2014. Participation in the program includes switching to a new pellet, gas or propane heating appliance or installing an electric air-source heat pump;

The current rebate program provides \$250 for exchanging to a new certified wood stove, a \$600 rebate for exchanging to a new gas, propane or pellet stove and a \$1,000 rebate for exchanging to an electric air-source heat pump.

Through cooperative efforts between the CVRD, Island Health and the Ministry of Environment and Climate Change Strategy, an emissions inventory and mobile air quality monitoring has identified fine particulate matter levels in certain areas of the Comox Valley to be of particular concern during the winter months.

Island Health has committed an additional \$35,000 to this program specifically identified for rebates for exchanges to air-source heat pumps and for areas of the Comox Valley where air quality is of particular concern.

I respectfully ask for the board's consideration of the following

THAT the Comox Valley Regional District Woodstove Exchange Program be amended as follows:

- rebates for exchanging to a new certified wood stove be increased to \$1,500 with a requirement for the recipient to attend a wood burning education session, rebates for exchanging to a new gas, propane or pellet stove be increased to \$2,000 and rebates for exchanging to an electric air-source heat pump be increased to \$3,500; and
- That rebates only be available in the specific areas of concern to be determined in consultation with Island Health and the Ministry of Environment and Climate Change Strategy based on previous mobile air quality monitoring.

Respectfully,

K. Grant

Ken Grant
Director