



# UTILITIES GOVERNANCE OPTIONS

COMOX VALLEY REGIONAL DISTRICT

JUNE 5, 2018



**left** side partners inc.







### WHAT IS THE PROJECT?

- Examining options for governance of 2 regional district services
  - Sewer service
  - Water service



### WHY EXAMINE OPTIONS?

- Issues raised by members of the sewage commission and water committee
- Strategic priority of the board



### **CURRENT STRUCTURE - SEWER**

#### **CVRD Board of Directors**

- Budget decisions and financial plan
  - Borrowing

#### **Sewage Commission**

(Elected officials & CFB)

- Budget for operations, fees
  - Administration

## Management Advisory Committee (staff)

- Advice on administration, technical matters and policy



### **CURRENT STRUCTURE - WATER**

#### **CVRD Board of Directors**

Budget decisions and financial planBorrowing

- Water Committee (elected officials
  - + staff as non-voting members)
  - Operational & admin policy
  - approve/refuse connections

## Management Advisory Committee (staff)

- Advice on policy, technical matters

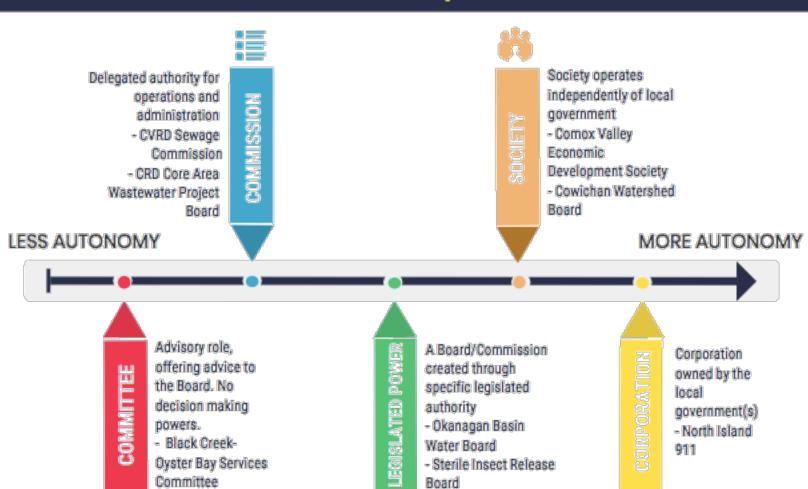


### WHAT ARE THE OPTIONS?

- Priority is to hear from you
  - Listen to your objectives, concerns, needs
  - Non-negotiables?
  - Opportunity to involve K'ómoks First Nation in decision making
  - Tailor a Comox Valley solution

### **Autonomy Spectrum**

**Governance Options** 





### WHAT ARE THE OPTIONS?

- Committees/Commissions
  - What are they?
  - What is the difference?
  - Who can be on them?
  - What role can they play?



### WHAT ARE THEY

- Local Government Act
  - Standing Committees
  - Select Committees
  - Local Community Commissions
  - Commissions



### WHO CAN BE ON THEM?

- Elected officials
  - Accountability to taxpayers
  - Representation
- Appointees
- Volunteers
- Experts



### WHAT CAN THEY DO?

- What can't they do?
  - Board retains budget (financial plan) approval
  - Borrowing authority
  - Bylaws
- Delegation of various levels of decision-making authority
  - Spending authority (within their budget)
  - Set priorities



### **NEXT STEPS**

- Next steps
  - Staff interviews
  - Follow-up phone calls with elected officials
- Reporting back issues paper that identifies what we've heard and path forward



### DISCUSSION

- What concerns do you have with the current decisionmaking structure?
- What is important to include in a new structure?
- Who needs to be at the decision-making table?