



OKSIR Administration Office
1450 KLO Road
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January 31, 2020

Regional District of Central Okanagan
1450 K.L.O. Road
Kelowna, BC, V1W 3Z4

**ATTENTION: REGIONAL DISTRICT OF CENTRAL OKANAGAN
BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

Dear Chair Given:

REFERENCE: SIR WORKING GROUP ON APPORTIONMENT

In late 2019, Okanagan-Kootenay Sterile Insect Release (SIR) Program Directors, Alternate Directors, and Regional District Chief Administrative Officers (CAOs) met in a facilitated workshop to review the apportionment of SIR Program costs among the four regional districts that participate in the Program. The workshop was convened as part of the SIR Governance Review that is underway, and in anticipation of the 2020 SIR Program budget. The workshop was also held in response to concerns raised by the Regional District of North Okanagan (RDNO) regarding the fairness of the current cost apportionment method, as well as the degree of consistency between the current method and that which is prescribed in the 1990 *OKSIR Regulation*.

Based on consensus reached by workshop participants, the SIR Board of Directors has established a Working Group on Apportionment. The role of the Working Group is to identify and recommend to the Board a broadly-supported, preferred method of Program cost apportionment. The Group is structured with a membership of eight, which is to include:

- one SIR Director, or Alternate Director, from each of the four participating regional districts
- the CAO (or staff designate) from each regional district

The members representing each regional district are to be appointed by that regional district's Board of Directors. Accordingly, I am writing to you on behalf of the SIR Board to request your Regional District Board of Directors to appoint two representatives to the SIR Working Group. As noted, one representative should be your appointee, or alternate, to the SIR Board; the other should be your CAO (or staff designate).

Enclosed with this letter is the *Working Group on Apportionment Terms of Reference*. As identified in this document, the SIR Board would like the Working Group to begin its work in February, 2020.



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Your timely response to this request for representatives, therefore, would be appreciated. Also enclosed is a *Record of Workshop* document that provides additional background information on the history of cost apportionment in the SIR Program, and on the establishment of the Working Group. It is worth noting that the *Record of Workshop* highlights the consensus among participants to ask the SIR Board to consider reducing the RDNO's 2020 value tax requisition by \$20,000.00. The SIR Board has endorsed this request as a one-time, goodwill gesture in support of ongoing collaboration through the Working Group and the broader SIR Program.

Thank you for your attention to this matter. Please forward the names of your representatives to Melissa Tesche, SIR General Manager, at your earliest convenience. Ms. Tesche will contact all representatives in the coming weeks to arrange the first meeting of the Working Group.

Yours truly,

OKANAGAN-KOOTENAY STERILE INSECT RELEASE PROGRAM

Shirley Fowler
Chair, Board of Directors

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