

**Minutes of the GOVERNANCE & SERVICES COMMITTEE meeting of the Regional District of Central Okanagan held at the Regional District offices, 1450 KLO Road, Kelowna, B.C. on Thursday, November 18, 2021**

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Directors:

- J. Baker\* (District of Lake Country)
- M. Bartyik (Central Okanagan East Electoral Area)
- C. Basran\* (City of Kelowna) (*attended electronically*)
- W. Carson (Central Okanagan West Electoral Area) (*attended electronically*)
- M. Singh, Alternate for M. DeHart (City of Kelowna)
- C. Fortin (District of Peachland) (*attended electronically*)
- G. Given (City of Kelowna)
- C. Hodge (City of Kelowna) (*attended electronically*)
- S. Johnston\* (City of West Kelowna)
- G. Milsom (City of West Kelowna)
- B. Sieben\* (City of Kelowna) (*attended electronically*)
- L. Stack (City of Kelowna)
- L. Wooldridge (City of Kelowna)

Absent: A. Alexander, Alternate for J. Coble (Westbank First Nation)

Staff:

- B. Reardon, Chief Administrative Officer
- T. Cashin, Director of Community Services
- C. Griffiths, Director of Corporate Services/Deputy Corporate Officer
- K. Needham, Corporate Officer (recording secretary)
- D. LeBlanc, Senior Planner\*
- S. Ballan-Brown, Corporate Services Executive Assistant

(\* denotes partial attendance)

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

Chairperson Wooldridge called the meeting to order at 8:34 a.m.

It was acknowledged that this meeting is being held on the traditional territory of the syilx/Okanagan people.

As an opening meeting, a live audio-visual feed is being broadcast and recorded on rdco.com.

Roll call was taken as some Board members appeared electronically.

**2. COMMUNITY SERVICES - Regional Housing Strategy Workshop**

Staff introduced the workshop and the Consultants:

- Nancy Henderson, Senior Local Government Advisor, Main Facilitator, Urban Matters;
- Matt Thomson, Senior Advisor & Co-Lead, Urban Matters (*attended electronically*);
- Darcy Roszell, Community Planner, Urban Systems (*attended electronically*).

Nancy Henderson, Facilitator:

- Presented an overview of the workshop format and topics to cover;
- Provided a project overview and timeline of the project and noted we are currently at the start of Phase 2;
- Discussed the process for engagement, including focus groups, public survey, lived experience interviews and the regional steering committee.
- Commented the next report to the Board is planned for late April 2022

*Director Baker joined the meeting in person at 8:44 a.m.*

- Displayed the housing continuum and the focus on affordable housing
- noted stakeholders already identified through the housing needs assessment process; since added MOTI/BC Transit, as well as groups working with youth, seniors and differing abilities.
- Board discussed other possible organizations, including non-profit and real estate.
- Provided an overview of factors contributing to housing including emerging housing trends, current market status, affordability gap, labour shortages.
- Discussed the benefits of a regional approach including a collective vision, strategic advocacy, pooling of resources, regional partnerships, and building capacity throughout the regional;
- Reviewed the role of government including the strategic priority of the Regional Board;
- Sustainable - want strategy to be complete;
- Spoke to the priority, role, and deliverable.
- NOT envisioning the creation of a regional housing corporation;
- Provided key points from recent workshop with staff steering committee

*Director Johnston joined the meeting in person at 9:12 a.m.*

Workshop portion introduced as follows:

1. Noted the intention is to have a collective vision and bring all municipalities along with a collective vision for regional housing strategy to regional that will then guide OCP development at other levels;
2. Noted that presentations to local government not part of current budget but could include presentations to municipalities if want to change engagement process.

Facilitator requested comment from the Board on the following five (5) questions and noted comments to help inform next steps in Phase 2 of the strategy:

1. Vision - What does success look like in 5 years;

Facilitator summarized:

- Collective vision, aligning advocacy, transportation links (check audio for summary);
  - How can best achieve this collective vision together, what processes can we use as we move through the process?
  - Work with staff with information and on strategy of engaging other municipalities.
2. Regional Collaboration - How do you think this plan best fosters regional collaboration and support municipal goals?
  3. Priorities - Identify your top Regional Housing Strategy priorities
  4. Barriers - With a regional lens, what are the barriers to success?

Facilitator:

- Reviewed the role of Regional District and asked if there are any changes to the current strategic priority, the regional role;
  - Advocacy role collectively, and at municipal level.
5. Strategic Priorities - Regional Role – are there any changes needed to the previously identified Regional Role?
    - RDCO's contributions to the provision of housing will take the form of advocacy and facilitation;
    - RDCO is ideally placed to convene discussions, outline innovative housing solutions and create best practices to inform local development policies.

Director of Community Services:

- Provided the current timeline and the return to the Board to review draft plan;
- Noted additional budget would be required to add additional reporting to the Board as this is not contemplated in the current project plan.

The Board members discussed what action that would like staff to take next, including an increase to the project budget to report back to the Board following further engagement with municipalities.

**#GS55/21** Sieben/Hodge

**THAT** the Regional Board directs project staff collate OCP information from all member municipalities, electoral areas and First Nation and convene an interim and additional Regional Housing Strategy presentation and workshop to the Regional Board as part of the project timeline.

CARRIED Unanimously

The consultants and staff confirmed they will collate the information to further speak to baseline of other local government jurisdictions in the region.

4. **ADJOURN**

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 10:43 a.m.

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L. Wooldridge (Chairperson)

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K. Needham (Corporate Officer)

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