



VILLAGE OF HARRISON HOT SPRINGS NOTICE OF MEETING AND AGENDA

REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING

Date: Tuesday, February 21, 2023
Time: 7:00 p.m.
Location: Council Chambers,
Memorial Hall, 290 Esplanade Avenue,
Harrison Hot Springs, British Columbia

THIS MEETING WILL BE CONDUCTED IN-PERSON AND VIA ZOOM VIDEO CONFERENCE

1. CALL TO ORDER

Meeting called to order by Mayor Wood
Acknowledgment of Sts'ailes traditional territory.

2. INTRODUCTION OF LATE ITEMS

3. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

4. ADOPTION OF COUNCIL MINUTES

(a) THAT the Regular Council Meeting Minutes of January 16, 2023 be adopted.

Item 4(a)
Page 1

(b) THAT the Committee of the Whole Minutes of January 26 & 27, 2023 be adopted.

Item 4(b)
Page 7

5. BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

6. CONSENT AGENDA

i. Bylaws		
ii. Agreements		
iii. Committee/ Commission Minutes		
iv. Correspondence	(a) Letter dated January 23, 2023 from Allan Garneau Re: Committee of the Whole Meetings	Item 6(iv)(a) Page 13

7. DELEGATIONS/PETITIONS

(a) Sargent Mike Sargent & Inspector Darron Pankratz, Agassiz RCMP Detachment
Re: 2022 Annual Policing Report

8. CORRESPONDENCE

(a) Email dated February 7, 2023 from Fraser Valley Regional District
Re: Draft Regional Growth Strategy

Item 8(a)
Page 19

- (b) Letter dated February 13, 2023 from Harrison Agassiz Chamber of Commerce
Re: 2023 BC Chamber of Commerce Week

Item 8(b)
Page 81

- (c) Letter dated February 14, 2023 from the BC Ombudsperson
Re: BC Ombudsperson's role in working with the public and Local Governments

Item 8(c)
Page 83

9. BUSINESS ARISING FROM CORRESPONDENCE

10. REPORTS OF COUNCILLORS, COMMITTEES, COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE AND COMMISSIONS

11. REPORTS FROM MAYOR

12. REPORTS FROM STAFF

13. BYLAWS

- (a) Report of Community Services Manager/Deputy CO – January 30, 2023
Re: Highway and Traffic Bylaw Amendment

Item 13(a)
Page 85

Recommendation:

THAT Highway and Traffic Amendment Bylaw No. 1185, 2023 be given first, second, and third readings.

- (b) Report of Community Services Manager/Deputy CO – January 30, 2023
Re: Boat Launch Facility and Parking Lot Regulation Bylaw No. 1075, 2015 Schedule "A" Fees

Item 13(b)
Page 89

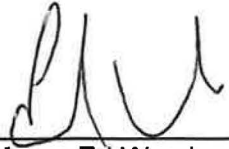
Recommendation:

THAT Boat Launch Facility and Parking Lot Regulation Amendment Bylaw 1186, 2023 be given first, second and third readings.

14. NEW BUSINESS

15. QUESTIONS FROM THE PUBLIC (pertaining to agenda items only)

16. ADJOURNMENT


 Mayor Ed Wood

**VILLAGE OF HARRISON HOT SPRINGS
MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF COUNCIL**

DATE: Monday, January 16, 2023

TIME: 7:00 p.m.

PLACE: Council Chambers, Memorial Hall
290 Esplanade Avenue, Harrison Hot Springs, BC

IN ATTENDANCE: Mayor Ed Wood

Councillor John Buckley (via Zoom)

Councillor Leo Facio

Councillor Allan Jackson

Councillor Michie Vidal

Deputy Chief Administrative Officer/CO, Debra Key

Community Services Manager/Deputy CO, Rhonda Schell

Finance Manager, Scott Schultz

Operations Manager, Tyson Koch

ABSENT:

1. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Wood called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Mayor Wood acknowledged the traditional territory of Sts'ailes

2. INTRODUCTION OF LATE ITEMS

- Resolve to move to a closed meeting before adjournment.

3. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Moved by Councillor Buckley

Seconded by Mayor Wood

THAT the agenda be approved as amended.

**MOTION FAILED
OPPOSED BY COUNCILLORS FACIO, VIDAL AND JACKSON**

Moved by Councillor Facio

Seconded by Councillor Jackson

THAT the agenda be approved.

**CARRIED
OPPOSED BY MAYOR WOOD
RC-2023-01-01**

*Village of Harrison Hot Springs
Minutes of the Regular Council Meeting
January 16, 2023*

4. ADOPTION OF COUNCIL MINUTES

Moved by Councillor Vidal
Seconded by Councillor Jackson

THAT the Regular Council Meeting Minutes of December 5, 2022 be adopted.

**CARRIED
UNANIMOUSLY**
RC-2023-01-02

Moved by Councillor Jackson
Seconded by Councillor Vidal

Errors and Omissions

On page 4, item (h) Coach Houses, second sentence, should read, "the City of Kamloops" not City of Kelowna.

THAT the Committee of the Whole Minutes of January 11, 2023 be adopted as amended.

**CARRIED
UNANIMOUSLY**
RC-2023-01-03

5. BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

None

6. CONSENT AGENDA

None

7. DELEGATIONS/PETITIONS

None

8. CORRESPONDENCE

- (a) Letter dated December 20, 2022 from District of Kent
Re: Request for Support of the Lets'emot Regional Aquatic Centre

Moved by Councillor Facio
Seconded by Councillor Buckley

THAT the letter dated December 20, 2022 from the District of Kent be received.

**CARRIED
UNANIMOUSLY**
RC-2023-01-04

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January 16, 2023*

9. BUSINESS ARISING FROM CORRESPONDENCE

Moved by Councillor Vidal

Seconded by Councillor Facio

THAT a letter be forwarded to Minister Hajdu and Minister LeBlanc in support of the District of Kent's request for funding; and

THAT the Village not commit to any financial support or donation towards the project.

**CARRIED
UNANIMOUSLY**
RC-2023-01-05

10. REPORTS OF COUNCILLORS, COMMITTEES, COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE AND COMMISSIONS

Councillor Buckley

- Agassiz Harrison Healthy Communities – No Report
- Fraser Valley Regional District Board (Alternate Municipal Director) – No Report
- Harrison Agassiz Chamber of Commerce
 - Attended a meeting on December 13, 2022
 - Attended a meeting on January 10, 2023
- Attended the Push-in Ceremony at the Fire Department on January 6, 2023

Councillor Facio

- Fraser Health – No Report
- Fraser Valley Regional District Board (Municipal Director)
 - Attended the Fraser Valley Regional and Corporate Services Committee meeting on January 12, 2023
- Fraser Valley Regional Library Board (Alternate Municipal Director) – No Report
- Attended the Push-in Ceremony at the Fire Department on January 6, 2023

Councillor Jackson

- Fraser Valley Regional Library Board (Municipal Director) – No Report
- Tourism Harrison – No Report
- Reported out that he has reviewed the *Community Charter* and draft Official Community Plan
- Reported that he attended the Push-in Ceremony at the Fire Department on January 6, 2023

Councillor Vidal

- Community Futures North Fraser Board of Directors
 - Attended a meeting on December 7, 2022
- Corrections Canada Citizen's Advisory Committee – No Report
- Kent Harrison Joint Emergency Program Committee – No Report
- Attended the Agassiz RCMP Detachment Open House on December 14, 2022

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- Attended an online course for responsible conduct hosted by UBCM on December 14, 2022
- Attended a Local Municipal Local Government Association board meeting on January 5, 2023
- Attended the Push-in Ceremony at the Fire Department on January 6, 2023

MAYOR'S REPORT

- Mayor Wood reported on the winners of the 2022 Holiday Lighting Contest for the residential and commercial categories and presented the residential recipient at 831 Myng Crescent with a plaque.
- Attended the Push-in Ceremony at the Fire Department on January 6, 2023.
- Attended the Kent-Harrison Arts Council 50th Anniversary event.
- Reported on the Agassiz Harrison Historical Society meeting and the Society's recent fundraiser which raised approximately \$20,000.
- Reported on the Capstone interviews with graduate students of the Agassiz Elementary Secondary School.

11. REPORTS FROM STAFF

- (a) Report of Deputy Chief Administrative Officer/CO – December 20, 2022
Re: Appointment of Deputy Fire Chief

Moved by Councillor Facio
Seconded by Councillor Jackson

THAT the appointment of Curtis Genest as Deputy Fire Chief be approved.

**CARRIED
UNANIMOUSLY**
RC-2023-01-06

- (b) Report of Community Services Manager – January 10, 2023
Re: Council Meeting Locations

Moved by Councillor Facio
Seconded by Councillor Jackson

THAT Council Meetings be permanently relocated to the Village Office as soon as possible with up to \$5,000 allocated to relocate audio visual equipment to the Village Office to be funded from taxation and up to \$15,000 to purchase furnishings for Council Chambers, to be funded from office equipment reserves.

**CARRIED
UNANIMOUSLY**
RC-2023-01-07

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12. BYLAWS

- (a) Report of Planning Consultant – January 10, 2023
Re: The Official Community Plan (OCP) Review Process and Adoption

Moved by Councillor Jackson
Seconded by Councillor Facio

THAT adoption of Official Community Plan Bylaw No. 1184, 2022 be postponed until February 16, 2023.

CARRIED
OPPOSED BY MAYOR WOOD
RC-2023-01-08

- (b) Report of Planning Consultant – January 11, 2023
Re: Substantially Revised Zoning Amendment Application

Moved by Councillor Facio
Seconded by Councillor Vidal

THAT the applicant be required to set up a Public Notification meeting, and;

THAT the 30 M notification radius, be increased to 100 M.

CARRIED
UNANIMOUSLY
RC-2023-01-09

13. NEW BUSINESS

- a) **Council Remuneration and Expense Policy 1.16**

Moved by Councillor Facio
Seconded by Councillor Jackson

THAT the Council Remuneration and Expense Policy 1.16 be reviewed on remuneration, mileage, coverage, meals, conference coverage and provision for Village cell phones and laptops; and

THAT the policy be referred to the Committee of the Whole on January 27, 2023.

CARRIED
OPPOSED BY MAYOR WOOD
RC-2023-01-10

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(b) Earth Day

Councillor Facio reported that he will be researching information to hold an Earth Day event.

14. QUESTIONS FROM THE PUBLIC (pertaining to agenda items only)

Questions from the public were entertained.

15. ADJOURNMENT

Moved by Councillor Jackson
Seconded by Councillor Facio

THAT the meeting be adjourned at 8:43 p.m.

**CARRIED
UNANIMOUSLY**
RC-2023-01-11

Ed Wood
Mayor

Debra Key
Corporate Officer

**VILLAGE OF HARRISON HOT SPRINGS
MINUTES OF THE COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING**

DATE: Thursday, January 26, 2023 at 2:00 p.m. and
Friday, January 27, 2023 at 10:00 a.m.
PLACE: Council Chambers, Memorial Hall,
290 Esplanade Avenue, Harrison Hot Springs, BC

IN ATTENDANCE: Mayor Ed Wood
Councillor John Buckley
Councillor Leo Facio
Councillor Allan Jackson
Councillor Michie Vidal

Community Services Manager/Deputy CO, Rhonda Schell
Finance Manager, Scott Schultz
Operations Manager, Tyson Koch
Planning Consultant, Ken Cossey

ABSENT: None

THURSDAY, JANUARY 26, 2023

1. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Wood called the meeting to order at 2:00 p.m.
Mayor Wood acknowledged the traditional territory of Sts'ailes.

2. INTRODUCTION OF LATE ITEMS

None

3. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Moved by Councillor Buckley

THAT the agenda be approved.

**CARRIED
UNANIMOUSLY**
COW-2023-01-09

4. ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION

a) Planning 101

The planning consultant gave a presentation on Municipal Government Planning and Development.

Moved by Councillor Facio

THAT staff be directed to review and update the land development bylaws.

**CARRIED
UNANIMOUSLY**
COW-2023-01-10

*Village of Harrison Hot Springs
Minutes of the Committee of the Whole Meeting
January 26 and 27, 2023*

5. ADJOURNMENT

Moved by Councillor Buckley

THAT the meeting be adjourned at 3:23 p.m. to Friday, January 27, 2023 at 10:00 a.m.

**CARRIED
UNANIMOUSLY**
COW-2023-01-11

FRIDAY, JANUARY 27, 2023

The Committee of the Whole meeting reconvened at 10:00 a.m.

1. ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION

b) Presentation of the 2023-2027 Draft Financial Plan

The Finance Manager presented the draft 2023-2027 Financial Plan and highlighted points on general revenue, general expenses, grants, general capital projects, reserves, development cost charges and estimated tax rates for 2023.

Moved by Mayor Wood

THAT the tax multiplier rate for 2023 remain the same as the 2022 tax ratios.

MOTION DEFEATED

Moved by Mayor Wood

THAT the tax multiplier rate for 2023 be changed to reflect an equalized increase for each class of properties.

**CARRIED
OPPOSED BY COUNCILLORS JACKSON AND FACIO**
COW-2023-01-12

c) Report of Community Services Manager/Deputy CO – January 20, 2023
Re: Off-Leash Dog Park

Moved by Councillor Facio

THAT the Off-Leash Dog Park report of January 20, 2023 be received.

**CARRIED
UNANIMOUSLY**
COW-2023-01-13

*Village of Harrison Hot Springs
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Moved by Councillor Vidal

THAT staff seek further public engagement and canvas adjacent properties for both proposed Off-Leash Dog Park locations.

**CARRIED
OPPOSED BY MAYOR WOOD
COW-2023-01-14**

RECESS BREAK AT 11:20 a.m.

RECONVENED AT 11:30 a.m.

- d) Report of Community Services Manager/Deputy CO – January 20, 2023
Re: Parking Master Plan Recommendations for Pay Parking

Moved by Mayor Wood

THAT Zone 2: Long Term pay parking rates be set at \$5/hour and \$20/day.

**CARRIED
OPPOSED BY COUNCILLOR BUCKLEY
COW-2023-01-15**

Moved by Councillor Facio

THAT the pay parking program be expanded to include Lillooet Avenue west of Hot Springs Road in Zone 1: Short Term Parking.

**CARRIED
UNANIMOUSLY
COW-2023-01-16**

Moved by Mayor Wood

THAT the pay parking program be expanded to include Cedar Avenue and Maple Street south of Lillooet Avenue in Zone 2: Long Term Parking.

**CARRIED
OPPOSED BY MAYOR WOOD AND COUNCILLORS JACKSON
RECONSIDERED**

Moved by Mayor Wood

THAT the boat launch parking day pass be increased to \$20/day.

**CARRIED
UNANIMOUSLY
COW-2023-01-17**

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Moved by Mayor Wood

THAT the time limited parking stalls on the north side of Lillooet Avenue be reduced to four.

MOTION FAILED

OPPOSED BY MAYOR WOOD, COUNCILLORS JACKSON, BUCKLEY AND VIDAL

Mayor Wood required reconsideration of the following motion:

THAT the pay parking program be expanded to include Cedar Avenue and Maple Street south of Lillooet Avenue in Zone 2: Long Term Parking.

MOTION FAILED

OPPOSED BY MAYOR WOOD, COUNCILLORS JACKSON AND BUCKLEY

Moved by Mayor Wood

THAT up to \$15,000 be authorized to implement the recommendations in the Parking Master Plan Recommendations for Pay Parking report dated January 20, 2023, to be funded from surplus.

**CARRIED
UNANIMOUSLY
COW-2023-01-18**

- e) Report of Operations Manager – January 17, 2023
Re: Sanitary Lift Station #1 Replacement

Moved by Mayor Wood

THAT Lift Station #1 be retrofitted as detailed in the Sanitary Lift Station #1 Replacement report dated January 17, 2023 with the assembled engineering team of Wedler Engineering LLP, Watanabe Engineering and GeoWest Engineering at a cost of up to \$1,122,500.00 to be funded by sanitary sewer DCC's and sanitary sewer reserves.

MOTION FAILED

OPPOSED BY COUNCILLORS JACKSON, VIDAL AND FACIO

Moved by Mayor Wood

THAT Lift Station #1 be replaced as detailed in the Sanitary Lift Station #1 Replacement report dated January 17, 2023 with the assembled engineering team of Wedler Engineering LLP, Watanabe Engineering and GeoWest Engineering at a value of up to \$2,392,500.00 to be funded by sanitary sewer DCC's and sanitary sewer reserves.

**CARRIED
OPPOSED BY MAYOR WOOD AND COUNCILLOR BUCKLEY
COW-2023-01-19**

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- f) Report of Community Services Manager – January 23, 2023
Re: Council Remuneration Policy 1.16 Review

Moved by Councillor Facio

THAT this report be received for information.

**CARRIED
UNANIMOUSLY**
COW-2023-01-20

Moved by Councillor Facio

THAT staff update Council Remuneration and Expense Policy 1.16 to increase remuneration for Mayor and Council by 30%, increase \$10.00 per meal, be provided an allowance for cell phone usage, be provided a Village issued laptop computer or an annual allowance of \$1000 for conducting Village business on personal computers, and the option to attend the FCM or UBCM conferences.

**CARRIED
OPPOSED BY MAYOR WOOD**
COW-2023-01-21

6. ADJOURNMENT

Moved by Councillor Facio

THAT the meeting be adjourned at 12:19 p.m.

**CARRIED
UNANIMOUSLY**
COW-2023-01-22

Ed Wood
Mayor

Rhonda Schell
Deputy Corporate Officer

RECEIVED

JAN 23 2022

BY VILLAGE OF HARRISON HOT SPRINGS

641 Schooner Place
Harrison Hot Springs
BC, V0M 1K0

January 23, 2023

Mr. Ed Wood, Mayor, Harrison Hot Springs
Hand delivered to Council Office

Dear Mr. Mayor and Councilors:

During my reading of the January 11th minutes of the CoW meeting, it became obvious that Council is not following the stated purpose of Committee of the Whole as it is intended. Aside from whether or not the meeting was properly advertised, my concerns addressed in this letter are strictly to do with the proper application of By-law 1164 to call and undertake a Committee of the Whole.

To begin with, Council meetings must be either Regular or Special. The matters dealt with in the January 11th CoW meeting should have been called and held as a Special meeting. The rules state that Regular meetings are to be held on the first and third Monday of each month, except in the summer months. The schedule on the website shows dates that conform to the rules, but the actual meetings do not. In any event, a meeting where Council meets outside of those days needs to be a Special meeting (note that the "definitions" in the By-law do not define either type of meeting).

I have been involved in several organizations where procedural rules applied, and I became familiar with both Robert's and Bourinot's Rules of Order. I have appended to this letter the procedural rules for use of Committee of the Whole under each of these guides (see Appendix 1).

Generally, matters to be considered in CoW must be restricted to specific items that are referred to it from a Regular or Special meeting. Once the meeting has moved into committee, rules are relaxed to permit a more informal environment for discussion. For example, speakers may be given more time and be allowed to speak more than once, and any 'motions' in committee do not have to be seconded. Minutes are not kept, but a record of discussion and conclusions reached are recorded. When the committee has completed the matter referred to it, it rises and reports to the main meeting. The main meeting can then deal with it as they wish, and what they decide is what is formally recorded in the minutes of the main meeting, including a statement such as 'no recommendation was considered'.

Section 18 of By-law 1164 (see Appendix 2) actually spells out, starting at section (d), most of the actual purpose and procedures to govern the proper application of CoW. However, the preamble and sections (a), (b) and (c) appear to have been tacked onto this section to permit the current irregular practice of CoW meetings. Section (i) does not make sense as it is written and also might have been inserted for a meeting. A Committee of the Whole should never be called to deal with several different items, as was the meeting on January 11. One can only guess why this aberration was initially established, and for what purposes, but it is highly irregular, and possibly illegal. (I am curious to know when and why these changes to procedures were made and how many CoW meetings have taken place since.)

We are a small village, but we are not a 'hick town' where we can arbitrarily change proper procedure to govern our affairs, as it appears to be the case here.

... page 2

The January 11 meeting may have been declared illegal before it started, but the reasons for that are only part of the picture. My contention is that the business conducted as a Committee of the Whole in this meeting and in many others in the past may not be legitimate and could be challenged. If we are governed by rules found in Procedure By-law (1164) then let's do it right.

My recommendations:

- a> NO more CoW meetings, but rather schedule Special meetings as required (or stick to the regular schedule of two meetings each month).
- b> Use CoW as it was intended: to deal with a specific item referred to it and let the meeting under which a CoW was established conduct the formal disposition of the matter.*
- c> Amend Section 18 of By-law 1164 to correct the situation.

Respectfully submitted,



Allan Garneau, resident

Cc: Councilor Leo Facio
Councilor John Buckley
Councilor Michie Vidal
Councilor Allan Jackson
✓ Deputy Chief Administrative Officer/CO Debra Key

* The CoW meeting that is happening on January 27 is the ideal chance to use the proper procedure. Call it a Special Meeting, and once in session, refer a main topic to a Committee of the Whole if a committee discussion is more efficient. This topic, and only this topic should be considered. Once the topic is complete or has reached a point where it is considered finished, a motion to rise and report should be made. The main meeting can continue other business as it wishes, but only if it is a Special Meeting.

APPENDIX 1 – What is a Committee of the Whole, according to Robert's and Bourinot's Rules?

Bourinot

18. Committees of the Whole House A committee of the whole House is composed of the entire membership of the House. Appropriation bills, or supply bills, which are bills to authorize government expenditures, are referred to a committee of the whole after their second reading. The House may on occasion also send other bills to a committee of the whole instead of to a standing or other committee. Other questions may be referred to committees of the whole when it is desirable to permit freer and fuller consideration than would be possible in a formal sitting of the House. A member is elected at the start of every Parliament to serve as Deputy Speaker and chairman of committees of the whole. The House also appoints a deputy chairman and assistant deputy chairman to preside in the absence of the Deputy Speaker while the House is in committee of the whole. The chairman maintains order, deciding all questions of order subject to an appeal to the Speaker, but disorder in a committee must be reported to and dealt with by the House itself. As far as they are applicable, the Standing Orders of the House are observed in committees of the whole, the exceptions being that motions are not seconded, members may speak more than once to the same question, and no member may speak for longer than twenty minutes. Speeches must be strictly relevant to the issue under consideration, and the committee may deal only with matters referred to it. The committee is not at liberty to go beyond its terms of reference. In committees of the whole, debate is carried on as in the House itself, and a majority decision rules. In the case of a tie vote, the chairman has a casting vote. If a division is required, the votes on each side are counted and reported to the chairman, who declares the motion carried or lost, but names are not recorded. When the matters referred to a committee of the whole have been fully dealt with, the chairman is directed to report the outcome to the House. Until that is done, the House may not refer to the question or to the committee's deliberations. Whenever a resolution of a committee of the whole is reported to the House, a motion to concur in it must be proposed and decided without debate or amendment. A committee of the whole may consider a matter in part and report progress to the House, and continue its work when the order for the committee is again read. A motion to "report progress and ask leave to sit again" is equivalent to a motion to adjourn debate and may be used merely to defer discussion. Should a member wish to have a question entirely set aside, he or she may move that the chairman leave the chair. This motion is always in order, takes precedence over any other motion, and is not debatable. If the majority of members vote for the motion, the chairman at once leaves the chair and, as no report can be made to the House, the bill or question disappears from the Order Paper. It can be restored only by a motion made in the House after due notice.

Roberts

55. Committee of the Whole. When an assembly has to consider a subject which it does not wish to refer to a committee, and yet where the subject matter is not well digested and put into proper form for its definite action, or when, for any other reason, it is desirable for the assembly to consider a subject with all the freedom of an ordinary committee, it is the practice to refer the matter to the "Committee of the Whole." If it is desired to consider the question at once, the motion is made, "That the assembly do now resolve itself into a committee of the whole, to take under consideration," etc., or, "That we go into committee of the whole to consider," etc., specifying the subject. This is really a motion to "commit." If adopted, the chairman immediately calls another member to the chair, and takes his place as a member of the committee. The committee is under the rules of the assembly, excepting as stated hereafter in this section.

The only motions in order are to amend and adopt, and that the committee "rise and report," as it cannot adjourn; nor can it order the "yeas and nays." An appeal from the decision of the chair can be made, and it must be voted on directly, as it cannot be laid on the table or postponed, those motions not being allowed in committee of the whole. Each member can speak only once on the appeal. The only way to close or limit debate in committee of the whole is for the assembly, before going into committee of the whole, to vote that the debate in committee shall cease at a certain time, or that after a certain time no debate shall be allowed, excepting on new amendments, and then only one speech in favor of and one against it, of, say, five minutes each; or in some other way to regulate the time for debate.

If no limit is prescribed, any member may speak as often as he can get the floor, and as long each time as is allowed in debate in the assembly, but he cannot speak a second time provided a member wishes the floor who has not spoken on that particular question. Debate having been closed at a particular time by order of the assembly, the committee has not the power, even by unanimous consent, to extend the time. The committee cannot refer the subject to another committee. Like other committees, it cannot alter the text of any resolution referred to it; but if the resolution originated in the committee, then all the amendments are incorporated in it.

When the committee is through with the consideration of the subject referred to it, or if it wishes to adjourn, or to have the assembly limit debate, a motion is made that "the committee rise and report," etc., specifying the result of its proceedings. The motion to "rise" is equivalent to the motion to adjourn in the assembly, and is always in order (except while voting or when another member has the floor), and is undebatable and cannot be amended. As soon as this motion is adopted the presiding officer takes the chair, and the chairman of the committee, having resumed his place in the assembly, rises, addresses the chair, and says: "The Committee of the Whole has had under consideration (here he describes the resolution or other matter) and has directed me to report the same with (or without, as the case may be) amendments," provided the committee has concluded its business. If the committee has failed to come to a conclusion, strike out of the report all after "and has" and insert "come to no conclusion thereon." If no amendments are reported, the chair at once states the question on the resolution or other matter referred to the committee. If amendments are reported the reporting member reads them, and hands the paper to the chair, who reads, and states and puts the question on the amendments as a whole, unless a member asks for a separate vote on one or more amendments, in which case a single vote is taken on all the other amendments, and then the question is stated separately on each of the amendments for which a separate vote was asked. The amendments may be debated and amended.

The secretary does not record in the minutes the proceedings of the committee, but should keep a memorandum of the proceedings for its use. In large assemblies the secretary vacates his chair, which is occupied by the chairman of the committee, and the assistant secretary acts as secretary of the committee. Should the committee become disorderly, and the chairman be unable to control it, the presiding officer should take the chair and declare the committee dissolved. The quorum of the committee of the whole is the same as that of the assembly. If the committee finds itself without a quorum, it can only rise and report the fact to the assembly, which in such case must adjourn.

APPENDIX 2**18. COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE**

Except as Council otherwise resolves and, in any event, only to the extent that business exists at a particular meeting under each of the following subject headings, the usual order of business at a Committee of the Whole shall be:

1. Call to Order
2. Introduction of Late Items
3. Approval of Agenda
4. Items for Discussion
5. Adjournment

Added?

- (a) A quorum of the Council is quorum for the Committee of the Whole.
- (b) A meeting of the Committee of the Whole may be called at any time by the Mayor.
- (c) At least twenty-four hours before a meeting of the Committee of the Whole, the Corporate Officer or designate must give public notice of the time, place and date of the meeting by way of posting an agenda at the public notice posting places;
- (d) During a Regular Council meeting, Council may, by resolution, resolve itself into the Committee of the Whole to consider specific matters.
- (e) The Mayor shall preside at the Committee of the Whole, unless the Council appoints another member of Council to preside.
- (f) The rules of the Council shall be observed in the Committee of the Whole so far as may be applicable, except that;
 - (i) the number of speeches by a member to any question shall not be limited;
 - (ii) no member shall speak for a longer total time of five minutes to a question; and
 - (iii) a seconder to a motion is not required.
- (g) A record will be recorded of how members voted.
- (h) A motion in the Committee of the Whole to rise without reporting, or that the Chair of the Committee leave the chair, is always in order and shall take precedence over any other motion.
- (i) Debate on a motion referred to in Section 18(f) shall be allowed, but no member shall speak more than once to the motion and, on further vote, shall be considered disposed of in the negative, and the Chair of the Committee of the Whole shall resume the Chair and proceed with the next order of business.
- (j) When all matters referred to the Committee of the Whole have been considered, a motion to rise and report shall be adopted. The Committee, when it has partly considered a matter, may report progress and ask leave to sit again. In

Added?

resumption of regular Council business, the Chair of the Committee of the Whole shall report to the Council and the Council may:

- (i) adopt the report;
- (ii) reject the report;
- (iii) adopt the report with amendments;
- (iv) refer the subject matter for further consideration, either in part or in whole;
- (v) postpone action on the report; or
- (vi) approve the request of the Committee to sit again, the Committee having reported progress after partial consideration of the subject.

- (k) A resolution at a Regular meeting of Council to adopt minutes of a Committee of the Whole meeting shall constitute ratification of all motions therein. Issues are finalized and authorized once the Council has passed the resolution to adopt.

19. STANDING AND SELECT COMMITTEES AND COMMISSIONS

The usual order of business at a Standing, Select Committee and Commission of Council shall be:

- 1. Call to Order
- 2. Introduction of Late Items
- 3. Approval of Agenda
- 4. Adoption of Minutes
- 5. Items for Discussion
- 6. Adjournment

(a) Standing Committees

- (i) The Mayor must establish standing committees for matters the mayor considers would be better dealt with by committee and must appoint persons to those committees;
- (ii) At least half of the members of a standing committee must be Council members;
- (iii) Subject to 19(a)(i), persons who are not Council members may be appointed to a standing Committee.
- (iv) The Mayor shall designate one member of each Committee to act as Chair and the Chair will be entitled to one vote.
- (v) The Mayor shall be an ex-officio member of all Committees and be entitled to vote at all meetings thereof.
- (vi) Members of Council, other than members appointed to a Standing Committee, may attend the meetings of a Standing Committee and shall not be allowed to vote, but may, with the consent of the Committee, be

Admin

From: Robin Beukens <rbeukens@fvrld.ca>
Sent: February 7, 2023 4:07 PM
To: Operations <operations@harrisonhotsprings.ca>
Cc: Alison Stewart <Astewart@fvrld.ca>
Subject: Regional Growth Strategy

Hello Tyson,

Thank you for meeting with us today to discuss the RGS.

The most recent draft of the RGS can be found here:

<https://www.fvrld.ca/assets/About~the~FVRD/Documents/RGS/2020%20DRAFT%20RGS%20Update.pdf>

We made note of your comments during our meeting today, and you are welcome to submit additional comments on the most recent draft. We understand you'll be discussing the draft RGS with Council on February 21st, and we will receive comments after that. If you would like a highlighted version of the most recent changes to review, please let me know.

The Clean Economy Study we discussed can be found here:

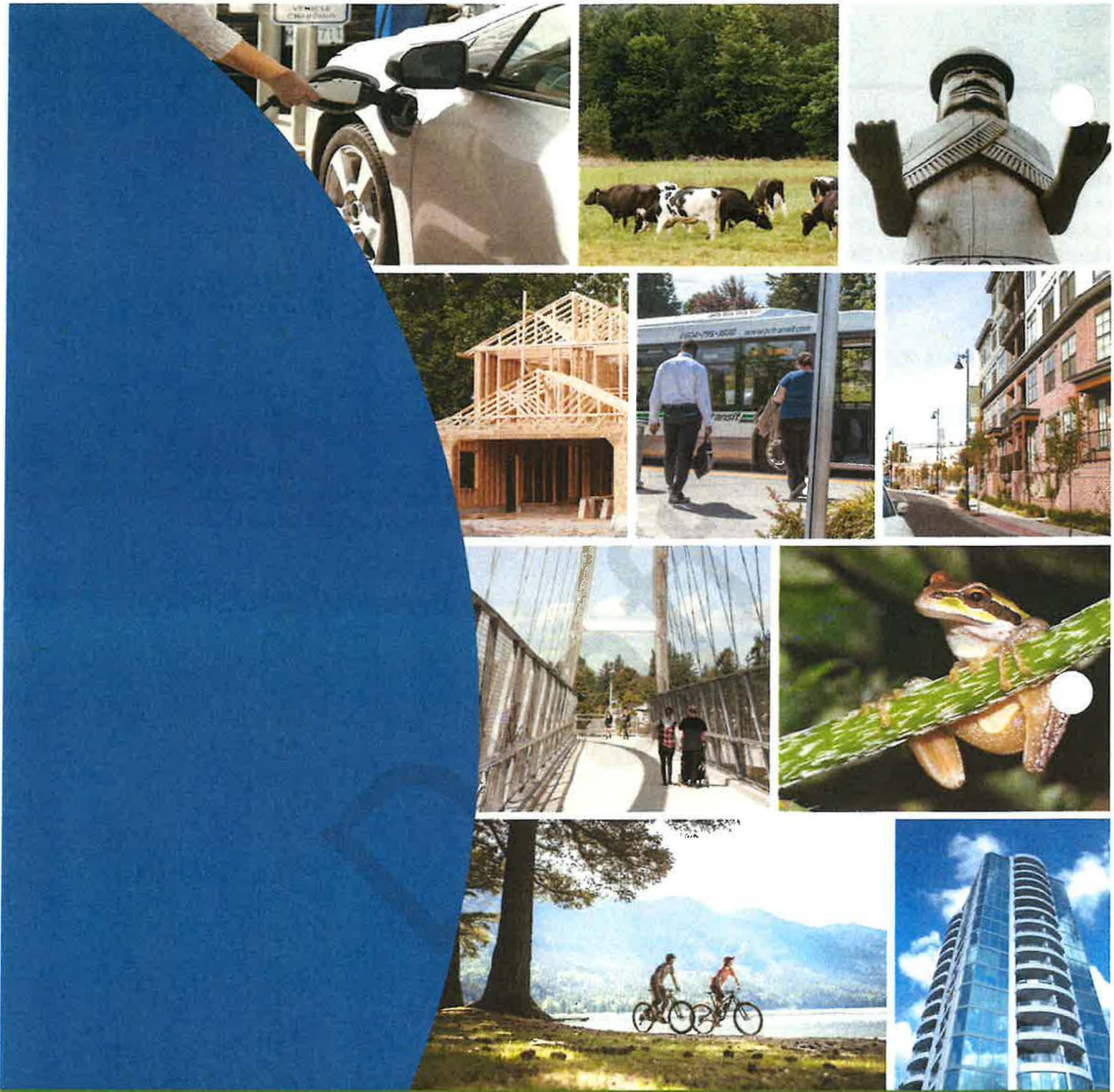
<https://www.fvrld.ca/EN/main/about-the-fvrld/projects-initiatives/clean-economy.html> You can find the resource guide and full report on this page.



Thanks,

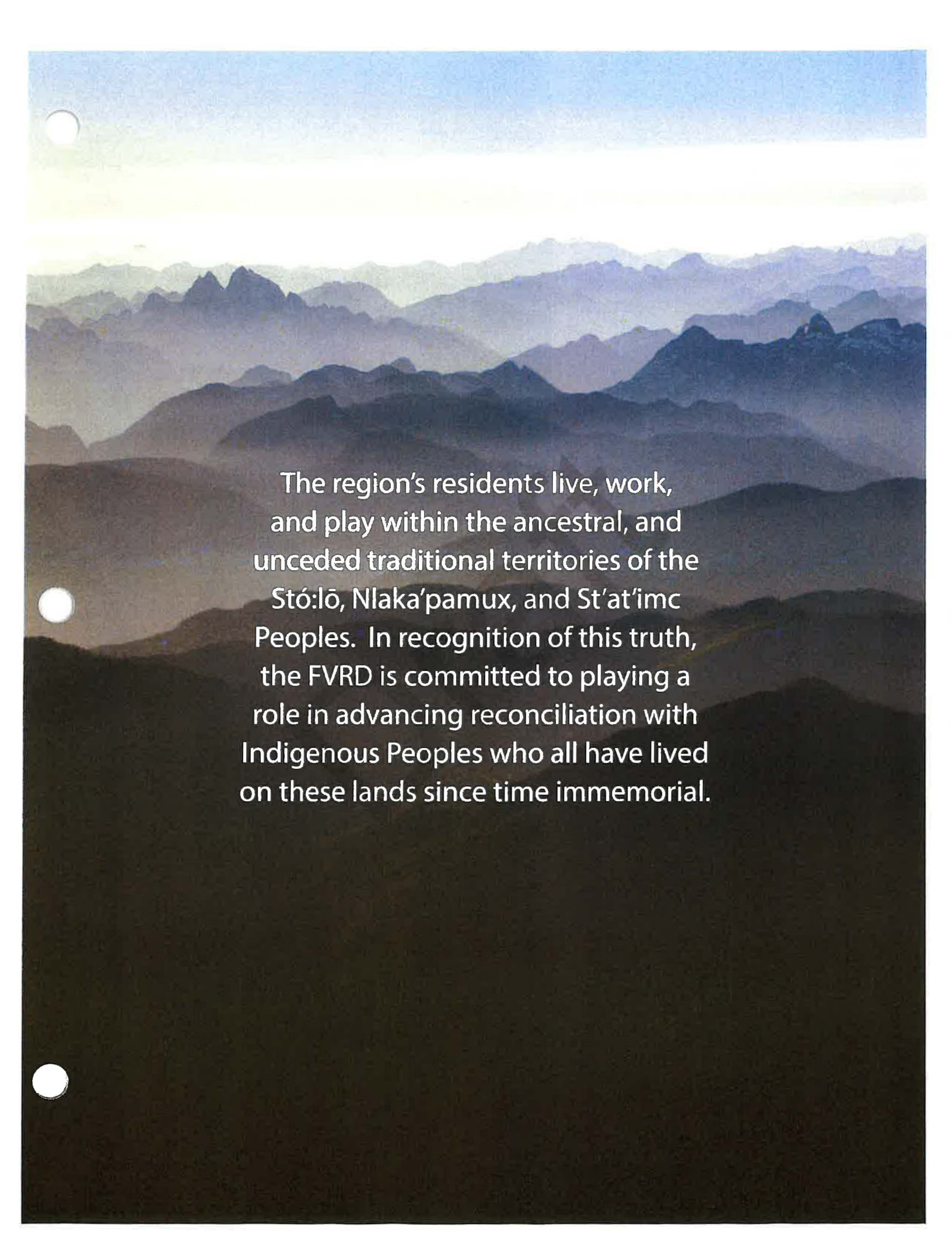
Robin Beukens, RPP, MCIP
Planner II, Strategic Planning and Initiatives

Fraser Valley Regional District
45950 Cheam Avenue, Chilliwack, BC V2P 1N6
604-702-5491 | fvrld.ca



Fraser Valley Future 2050

REGIONAL GROWTH STRATEGY



The region's residents live, work,
and play within the ancestral, and
unceded traditional territories of the
Stó:lō, Nlaka'pamux, and St'at'imc
Peoples. In recognition of this truth,
the FVRD is committed to playing a
role in advancing reconciliation with
Indigenous Peoples who all have lived
on these lands since time immemorial.



The following First Nations are located within the FVRD:

Āthelets (Aitchelitz First Nation)
Boothroyd Indian Band
Boston Bar First Nation
Chawathil First Nation
Xwchíyò:m (Cheam First Nation)
Kwantlen First Nation
Kwaw-kwaw-Apilt First Nation
Leq'á:mel First Nation
Máthezwi (Matsqui First Nation)
Peters First Nation
Popkum First Nation
Samahquam
Sq'ewlets (Scowlitz First Nation)
Seabird Island Band
Skatin Nations

Sq'ewá:lxw (Skawahlook First Nation)
Skwah First Nation
Shxwhá:y Village
Shxw'õwhámél First Nation
Sq'ewqéyl (Skowkale First Nation)
Th'ewá:li (Soowahlie First Nation)
Spuzzum First Nation
Sxwoyehálá (Squiala First Nation)
Sts'ailes
Semá:th (Sumas First Nation)
Ch'íyaqtel (Tzeachten First Nation)
Union Bar First Nation
Xa'xtsa Nation (Douglas First Nation)
Yeqwyeqwí:ws (Yakweakwioose First Nation)
Yale First Nation

Katzie communities are located outside the FVRD, but their traditional territory extends into the FVRD's northwest sector and are subject to active treaty negotiations between Katzie First Nation, Canada, and British Columbia.

Many other Indigenous communities consider the FVRD as part of their traditional territories.

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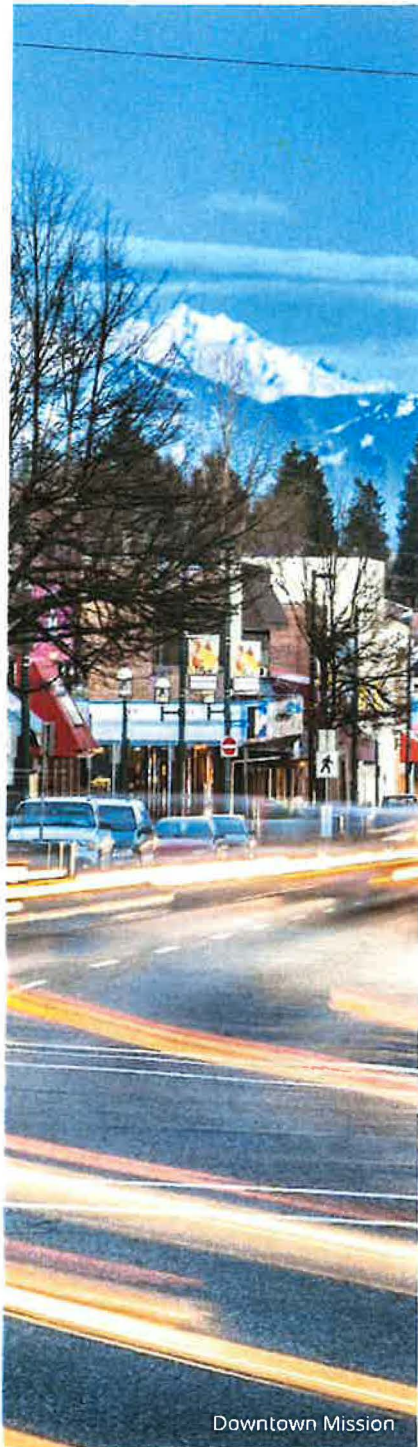


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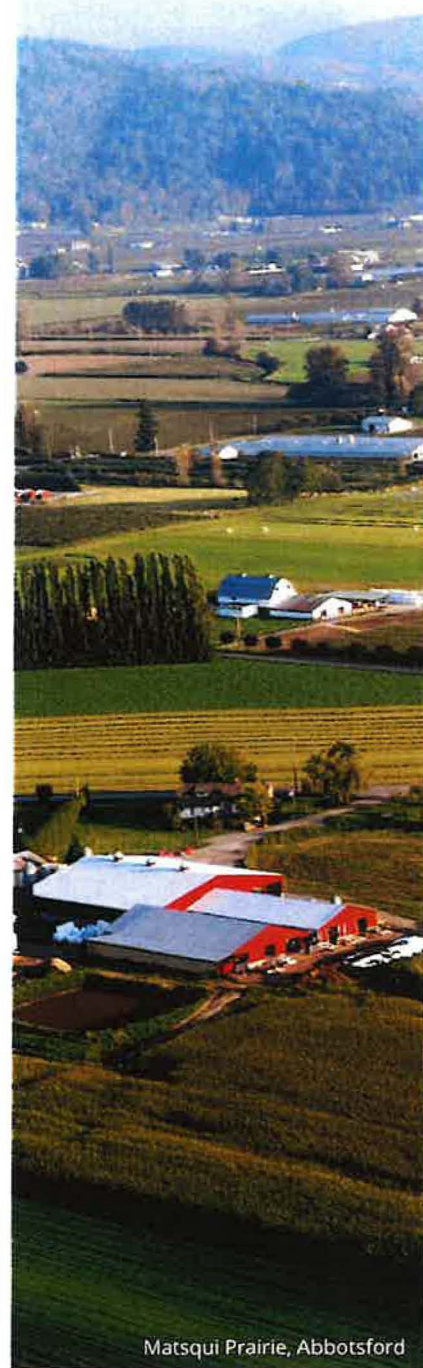
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Introduction

The Purpose of the Regional Growth Strategy

The Regional Growth Strategy (RGS) is a strategic plan enabled by the *Local Government Act* that provides an overarching planning framework for coordinating the activities of local governments and the provincial government. It considers transit, housing, parks, economic development, and environmental issues from a regional perspective with the goal of creating healthy, sustainable communities. As a long range vision with a 30-year scope, it aims to ensure the region as a whole is working toward a common future.

Regional growth strategies support the management of issues that affect more than one jurisdiction and can perform the following functions (among others):

- Promote coordination among municipalities and regional districts on issues that cross jurisdictional boundaries;
- Promote coordination among municipalities, regional districts, and Indigenous communities as a means to establishing and maintaining meaningful and collaborative relationships;
- Strengthen links between regional districts and the provincial ministries and agencies whose resources are needed to carry out projects and programs; and
- Communicate the region's strengths to potential investors while demonstrating that local governments, Indigenous governments and stakeholders are proactively addressing the key issues affecting the region's future.

In 2004, the Fraser Valley Regional District (FVRD) adopted "Choices for Our Future", the region's first Regional Growth Strategy bylaw. However, much has changed since 2004. In 2010, a review of the RGS was initiated to reassess and adjust the region's long-term vision and objectives in light of new legislation, new growth, and changing demographics. This updated RGS reflects these changes.

The content and policies presented in this document are based on input from member municipalities, Indigenous communities, the general public, and other stakeholders throughout the region. Input was gathered through a series of open houses, surveys, workshops, and direct communications.

The Regional Growth Strategy is intended for elected officials and staff from the Fraser Valley Regional District, electoral areas (EAs), member municipalities, neighbouring regional districts, Indigenous governments, other levels of government, as well as the general public and other stakeholders. The document outlines the vision and priorities of the region, and will be referenced when making both short-term and long-term decisions that have the potential to affect the region as a whole.

Per Section 445 of the *Local Government Act*, the RGS does not commit or authorize a regional district to proceed with any project or action specified within the plan.



Context

Who We Are

The Fraser Valley Regional District is comprised of six member municipalities and eight electoral areas and features a wide range of communities, from small rural hamlets to the fifth largest city in British Columbia (BC). Situated in Southern BC just east of Metro Vancouver, the boundaries of the FVRD extend from Abbotsford in the west to Manning Park in the east, and from the US border with Washington State in the south to Garibaldi Provincial Park in the northwest. The region's total land base is 13,361 square kilometres.

This region has a diverse population living within its boundaries. Indigenous Peoples have lived in the area for thousands of years, and more recent arrivals have come from countries around the globe, creating a culturally diverse society. The lives and experiences of our residents are characterized by an equally diverse landscape of rugged mountains, the Fraser River and its tributaries, and fertile valleys.

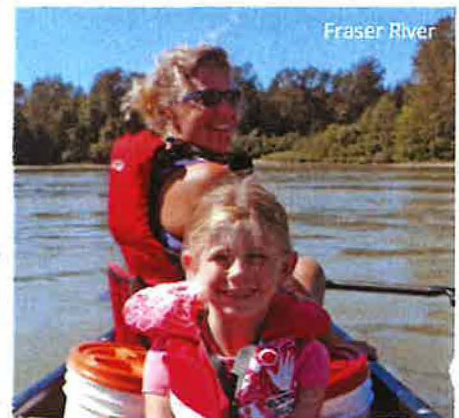
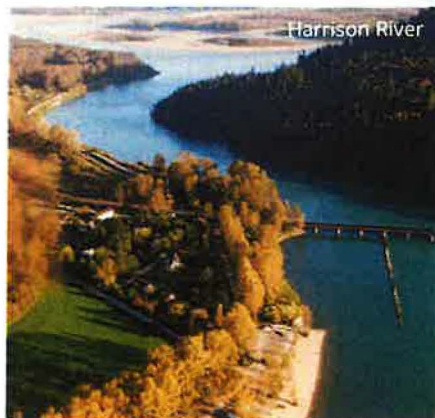
The FVRD is the third most populous regional district in British Columbia and one of the fastest growing. As of 2021, the region is home to approximately 337,000 residents. By 2050 the population could increase by as much as 47% to around 500,000. Anticipating and accommodating this growth over the next 30 years will offer both opportunities and challenges for the region.

Although the FVRD remains remarkably independent from the rest of the Lower Mainland, the region will increasingly face external pressures as a result of growth occurring within Metro Vancouver.

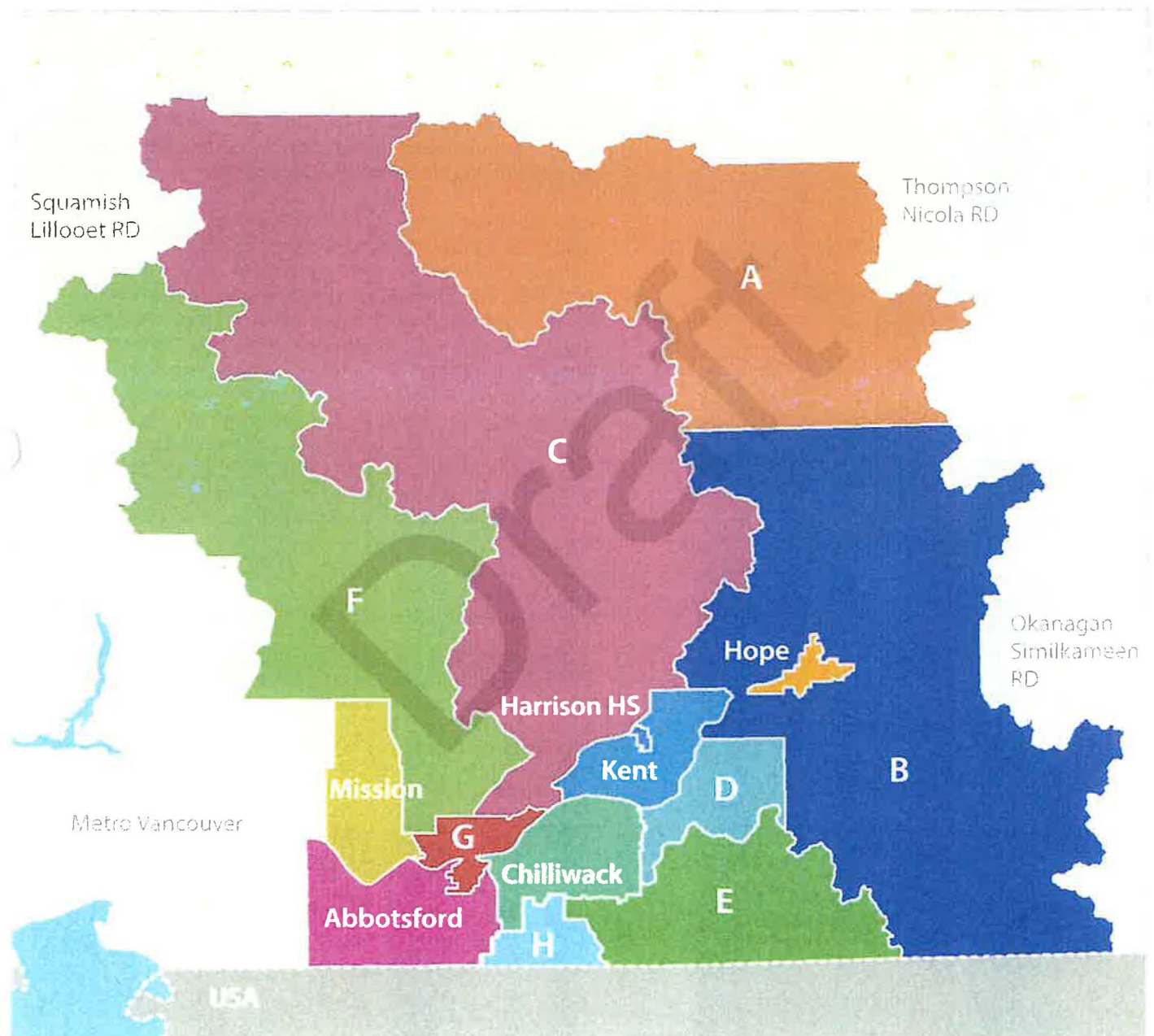
By 2050, the population of Metro Vancouver is expected to increase by over 40% to 3.6 million. Like any growth, this will create both challenges and opportunities for the FVRD. As the primary link between Metro Vancouver and the rest of Canada, the FVRD will continue to be impacted by major infrastructure projects traversing the region that are crucial to the flow of goods and services. Parks are facing overuse as lower mainland residents visit the FVRD to access nature and outdoor recreational opportunities. High housing prices in Metro Vancouver affect this region's ability to maintain affordable housing while protecting agricultural land. Even air quality is directly affected by development to the west.

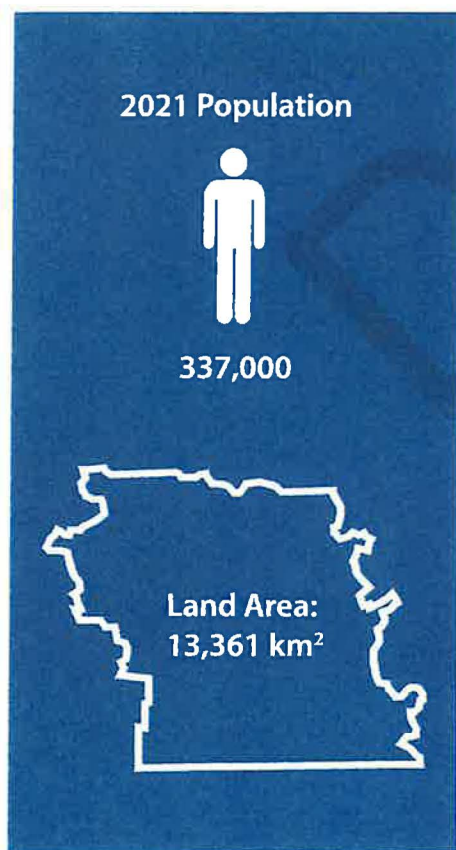
However, the FVRD's unique relationship to Metro Vancouver offers advantages by placing the region within easy reach of a large market, generating new potential in the tourism industry and creating opportunities for collaboration when addressing issues such as air quality and housing affordability.

For additional information on the region, please visit us at www.fvrd.ca.



Map 1. FVRD Jurisdictions





Population Estimates & Projections

The Lower Mainland has long been recognized as one of the fastest growing regions in Canada and is currently home to over 3.1 million residents. It is anticipated that the Lower Mainland's population will reach 4.1 million by 2051. At an estimated 337,000 in 2021, the FVRD makes up almost 11% of the Lower Mainland's population and is the third largest regional district in the province by population.

The FVRD is consistently one of the fastest growing regional districts in British Columbia. Growth has been continuous, with the most rapid period of growth taking place between 1971 and 2001. After 2001, growth moderated somewhat, but more recently growth has accelerated. It is anticipated that the region will see an additional 163,000 residents from 2021 levels, a 47% increase in overall population, by 2050. 96% percent of this growth will take place within the six member municipalities, with the remaining 4% taking place in the region's rural electoral areas (see Table 1). The region's Regional Growth Boundaries, delineated in the RGS, will help to contain this growth in established urban centres and foster the development of more compact and complete communities.

Table 1. FVRD Population Growth Estimates 2021-2050*

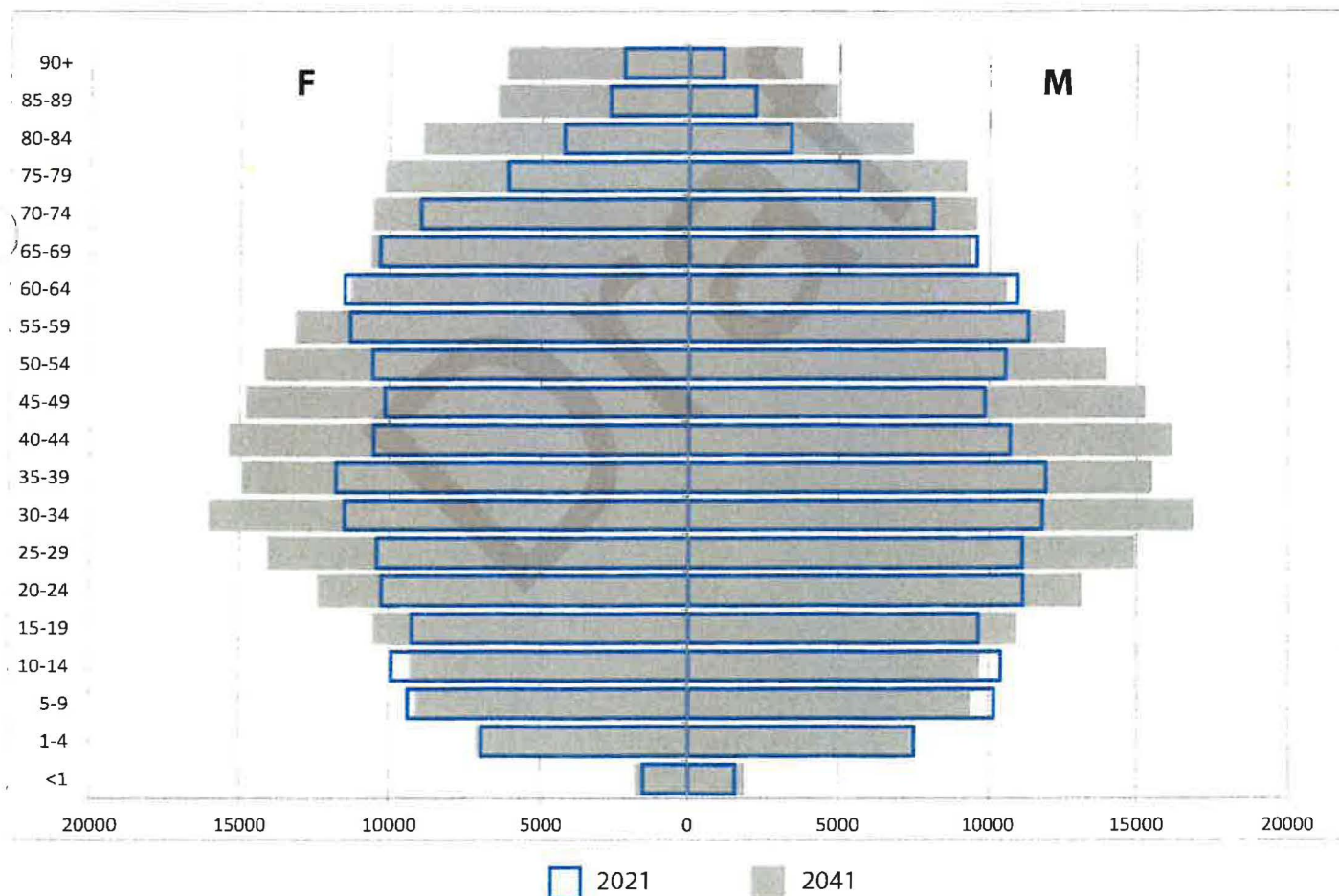
Population Growth Estimates				
	2021	2030	2040	2050
Abbotsford	160,183	181,889	213,179	237,824
Chilliwack	96,975	112,419	133,060	152,004
Mission	43,354	48,896	55,913	64,793
Hope	6,890	7,699	8,013	8,643
Kent	6,589	6,799	7,041	7,591
Harrison	1,951	2,134	2,357	2,553
EAs	11,913	12,633	14,094	14,847
FN Reserves	9,544	10,121	11,291	11,895
FVRD	337,399	382,591	444,948	500,150

*High estimates (takes into account estimated Census undercount) including correctional facilities population.

Another important consideration for the RGS is the region's aging population. According to BC Stats, over the next 20 years, the number of seniors in the region is expected to increase from 19% to 23% of the total population. By 2041, almost 100,000 residents will be over the age of 65 (see Figure 1).

This demographic shift will impact housing demand, health care, municipal services, built-form, travel patterns, transportation mode share, transit use/demand, and accessibility in the region. Rural areas will face the greatest challenges with a higher percentage of seniors and fewer resources to manage demands.

Figure 1. Current and projected population of the FVRD by age and gender, 2021-2041*



*BC Stats 2021 projections

Economic Outlook & Employment Projections

Since the earliest days of British Columbia, employment in the region has centred around the agriculture and resource industry sectors. While these sectors are still an important ongoing source of jobs, the region's employment base has expanded and diversified, and now includes a wide variety of manufacturing, aerospace, service, and high-tech fields. Many of these diversified industries have important connections to the older, more traditional sectors like agriculture, with its increasing dependence on technology.

The diversifying economy has not reached all corners of the FVRD. While larger communities like Abbotsford and Chilliwack are developing employment opportunities outside the traditional resource sectors, other communities have experienced difficult times as resource-dependent industries adapt to a changing global market.

Understanding the structure of the region's economy can inform a number of policy areas including education requirements, sustainable transportation options, and social planning strategies. Goods-producing industries play a much larger role in the FVRD than in neighbouring Metro Vancouver, with almost 30% of the labour force engaged in these industries. The larger communities of Abbotsford, Chilliwack, and Mission are more diversified and often act as suppliers of commercial services to smaller communities and electoral areas. The region's proximity to one of Canada's fastest growing metropolitan regions provides the FVRD with a ready market for a broad range of goods and services.

Longer term employment projections for the FVRD sees continued growth, primarily in the three largest urban centres: Abbotsford, Chilliwack, and Mission. Employment is expected to increase regionally by almost 90,000 jobs, or 60%, between 2021 and 2050. Economic development activities on Indigenous lands, both on- and off-reserve, will also add to the region's economic growth.

Table 2. FVRD Employment Growth Estimates*

Employment Growth Estimates				
	2021	2030	2040	2050
Abbotsford	77,583	86,152	108,376	119,715
Chilliwack	41,193	48,404	60,769	69,989
Mission	18,606	21,506	26,325	31,231
Hope	2,437	2,787	2,829	3,143
Kent	2,853	3,040	3,253	3,600
Harrison	715	783	979	1,083
EAs and FN Reserves*	5,563	6,147	6,586	6,991
FVRD	149,045	168,212	209,076	236,028

**High estimates - Employment projections not available for individual electoral areas or Indigenous communities*

Housing Outlook & Projections

The region has seen increasing housing demand as the population continues to grow. This is partly driven by people moving to the FVRD seeking more affordable housing options in the Lower Mainland. Housing demand is projected to be strongest in the large municipalities but will also be seen in the electoral areas. Housing demand forecasts in the region are linked to population forecasts. Therefore, housing demand is projected to continue to reflect the projected population growth in the region.

Constrained by local geography and the Agricultural Land Reserve, a broad range of housing types and densities are being developed in the region's urban centres. New housing in the urban centres is increasingly shifting to multi-family housing forms. In addition, secondary suites, laneway housing and other housing options are increasing density and affordability in traditional single family neighbourhoods.

Housing Affordability and Homelessness

Per Section 585.2 of the *Local Government Act*, all local governments must prepare Housing Needs Reports (HNR). These reports provide the basis for housing policies within municipal and electoral area official community plans (OCPs) and regional growth strategies. HNRs have been completed by each FVRD member municipality, and the FVRD has completed reports for each electoral area. The RGS takes into consideration the needs and challenges identified in these plans.

Even prior to the HNR requirement, increasing homelessness and housing affordability concerns have led municipalities to develop housing strategies to address a range of needs across the housing continuum. These needs range from ensuring the supply of a broad range of housing types and preserving rental stock, to providing supportive housing and emergency shelter options for those most vulnerable.

It is important to recognize, however, that housing affordability and homelessness is not only an "urban" issue and that rural homelessness, including on Crown lands, is a concern. Indigenous communities are also expressing concerns about outsiders establishing encampments in or adjacent to their communities.

Table 3. FVRD Housing Unit Growth Estimates*

Housing Unit Growth Estimates				
	2021	2030	2040	2050
Abbotsford	58,073	65,943	77,286	86,221
Chilliwack	38,626	44,778	53,000	60,545
Mission	15,351	17,313	19,797	22,942
Hope	3,342	3,734	3,887	4,192
Kent	2,634	2,718	2,814	3,034
Harrison	1,070	1,170	1,293	1,400
EAs + FN Reserves*	8,997	9,541	10,644	11,213
FVRD	130,155	147,588	171,643	192,938

* Does not include anticipated development on First Nations reserves

Table 4. FVRD Dwelling Types*

2021 Dwelling Type (%)				
	Single Detached	Semi-Detached, Row, Suite	Apartment	Moveable
Abbotsford	37%	33%	29%	1%
Chilliwack	54%	24%	21%	1%
Mission	65%	26%	9%	0%
Hope	74%	10%	7%	9%
Kent	71%	15%	9%	6%
Harrison	64%	18%	16%	2%
EAs	82%	2%	1%	16%
FN Reserves	68%	9%	2%	22%
FVRD	50%	26%	21%	2%

*2021 Canada Census



Street-Oriented Townhouses, Abbotsford



Popkum Neighbourhood, Electoral Area D

Indigenous Peoples and Communities

The Past

Indigenous Peoples have inhabited the Fraser Valley for roughly 10,000 years¹. In Stó:lō communities, the connection to this place is said to date to 'time immemorial'.

Indigenous Peoples in the Fraser Valley numbered in the tens of thousands in the 17th century². The extensive network of rivers, lakes, and mountain ridges in the region were critical, providing a communication and transportation network between communities that ranged from the Pacific Ocean to the interior of British Columbia. To this day, the Fraser River plays a significant role in Indigenous culture, providing an important connection to the spiritual world and a place to practice cultural traditions.

Near the end of the 18th century, with the arrival of European settlers, Indigenous Peoples were exposed to smallpox. Historians have estimated that nearly two-thirds of the Indigenous population in the Fraser Valley was lost in less than six weeks³.

Federal and provincial government policies and programs resulted in further fragmentation of Indigenous communities through the *Indian Act*; notably the creation of bands, allocation of reserves, and the residential school system. The long-term effects of these actions are still being felt today.

Governance

Today there are 30 First Nations in the region, representing three broad language groups⁴. A number of these communities operate independently, while most manage services and programs through regional tribal councils and other types of self-defined organizational structures and authorities.

The United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (UNDRIP), to which Canada is a signatory, and the principles of which B.C. has designated to uphold through the Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples Act (DRIPA), outlines Indigenous rights of self-determination, lands and resources, and free, prior, and informed consent.

The Fraser Valley Regional District recognizes and respects autonomy and self-governance of local Indigenous organizations as they work to strengthen their communities and toward realizing their visions for the future. The FVRD is committed to a collaborative, government-to-government relationship with Indigenous communities which is built around the principles of UNDRIP.

Economic

Indigenous communities are engaged in the regional economy in many different ways, including: natural resource development, education, and economic development partnerships, cultural tourism, and others. The amount of Indigenous economic activity in the Fraser Valley reflects the range of economic opportunities available and the considerable potential for future growth.

Indigenous communities will play an important role in the continued economic growth in the region. Communities are actively diversifying and expanding their economies.

Partnerships

The Fraser Valley Regional District works with a number of local Indigenous communities on a wide range of initiatives and projects. These partnerships are enabled through numerous different agreements ranging from Memoranda of Understanding and Protocol Agreements to service agreements.

Throughout the region, the FVRD has entered into agreements with local Indigenous communities for the delivery of a number of services, including but not limited to: liquid waste management, water, planning and building inspection services, animal control, regional transit, and fire protection.

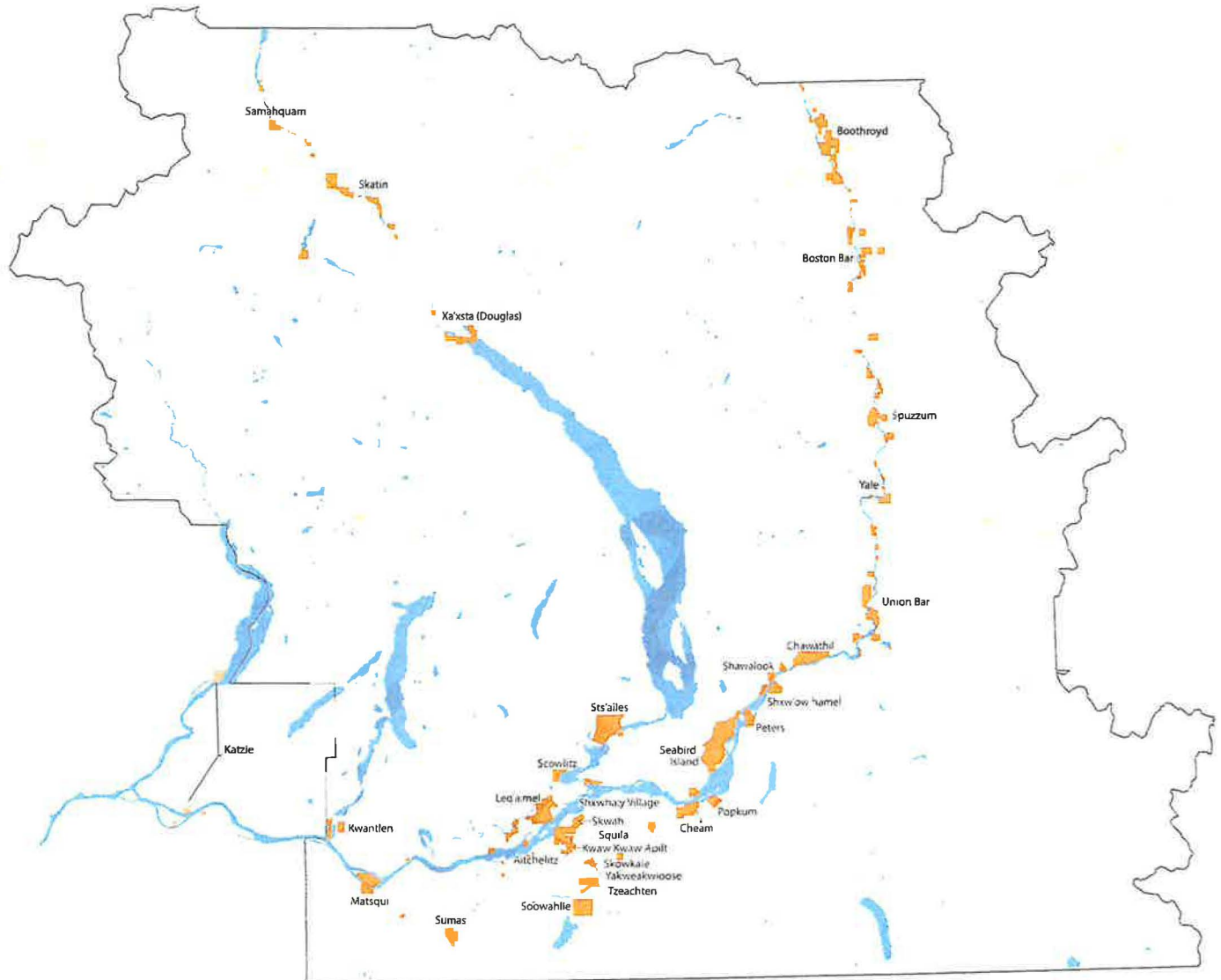
¹ A Stó:lō-Coast Salish Historical Atlas (2001), 16

² Ibid, 18

³ Ibid, 30

⁴ First Peoples' Language Map of B.C. (maps.fphlcc.ca)

Map 2. Indigenous Communities



Jurisdictional Boundaries

- First Nations Reserve Land
- FVRD Boundary

Note: The FVRD is located within the cultural regions of the Stó:lō, Nlaka'pamux, and St'at'imc Peoples. This map does not reflect the extensive traditional territories of the Indigenous communities in which the FVRD is located.

Defining Growth

Regional Vision

Growth can mean many different things depending on the context. One of the roles of the RGS is to understand the different growth patterns occurring within the region and to ensure that growth and development is appropriate within the larger regional context. It's then up to each municipality's official community plan (OCP) to ensure that growth is appropriate for each community and neighbourhood.

Three categories help describe the different types of growth occurring in the region: urban centres, rural communities, and rural landscapes (see Map 3). Beyond these, extensive portions of the region are provincial Crown land, outside the authority of the FVRD.

Indigenous Relations

The FVRD is committed to maintaining strong, collaborative, and respectful government-to-government working relationships with Indigenous communities, which is built around the principles of UNDRIP. The FVRD will foster opportunities for mutual understanding of governing structures, planning tools, traditions, roles, and responsibilities while respecting the views and authority of each party, recognizing that we have a common interest in a sustainable and resilient future.

Regional Growth Boundary

The Regional Growth Boundary (RGB) is a tool for delineating areas with urban centres for future growth. Concentrating growth within the RGB contributes to the development of more compact, complete communities, which is a primary goal of the RGS.

Higher residential densities are encouraged and accommodated within the RGB where appropriate services exist. New high density developments should not be considered outside of the Regional Growth Boundary.

Urban Centres

Urban centres are located in all six of the region's municipalities and are intended to accommodate most of the future residential, industrial, and commercial growth in the region. Definitions of urban growth vary across the region. However, there are common characteristics shared among each of the urban centres. These include:

- Identified areas for future growth
- Urban residential densities
- The inclusion of industrial and commercial lands
- Greater access to basic municipal services
- Concentrating highest density and mix of uses adjacent to transit routes.

Rural Communities

Rural communities are characterized by a range of development patterns often consisting of small areas of concentrated residential lots. Housing is primarily single family and access to services, such as transit, is limited. Commercial land uses are generally limited and serve local residents or the traveling public. Growth in these areas is expected to be minimal for the next 30 years.

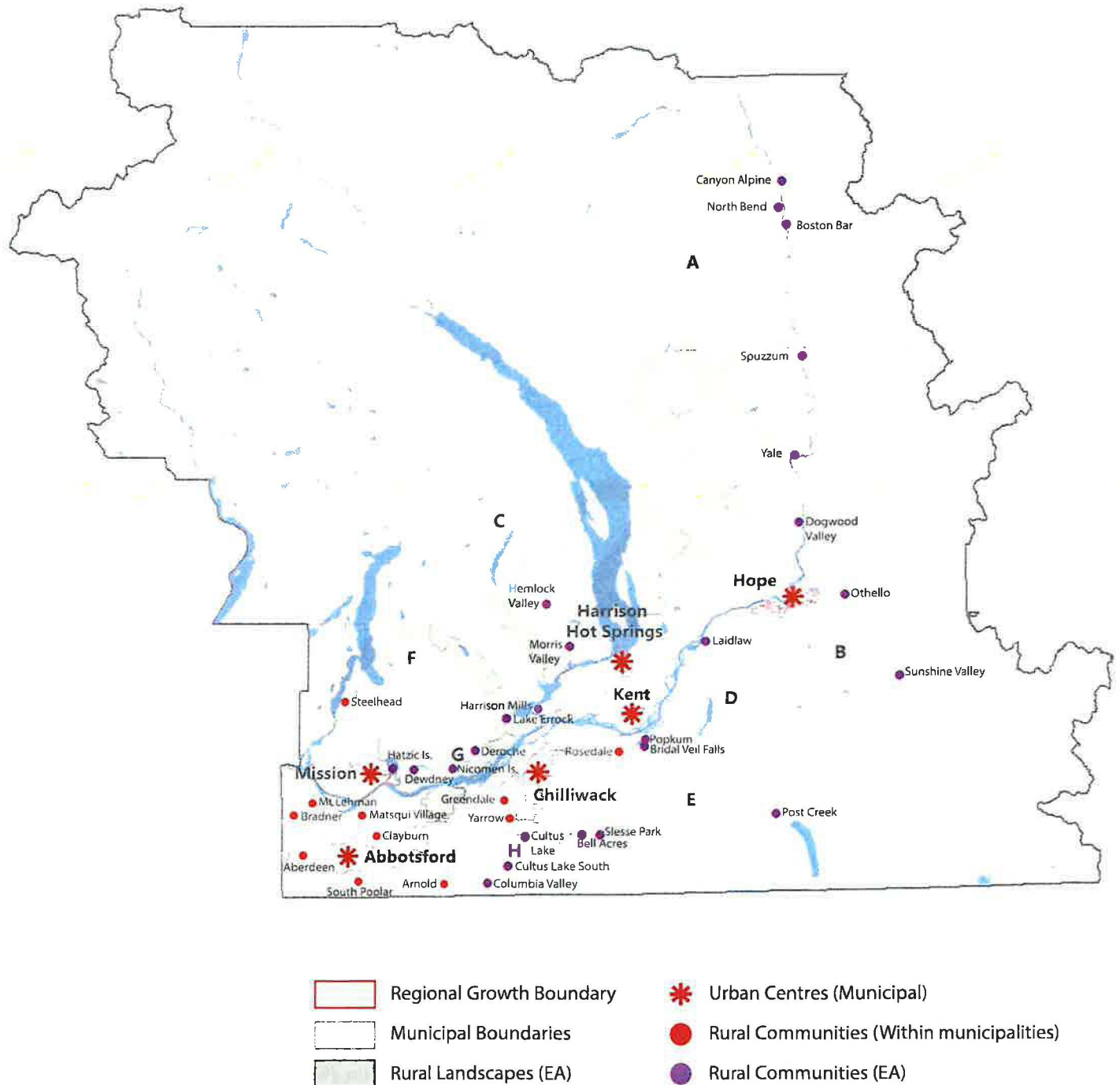
Rural communities can also include resort communities, such as ski hills and lake side resorts. Resorts serve a more seasonal community, attracting visitors from throughout the lower mainland and elsewhere.

Rural Landscapes

Lot sizes in the areas outside of urban centres and rural communities are intended to remain large with low residential densities, in order to protect the rural character of these more remote areas. These areas are characterized by large rural lots, parks, agricultural land and forested Crown land.

Located primarily in rural landscapes, Crown land represents the vast majority of the FVRD's total land base.

Map 3. Urban Centres and Rural Communities



This map does not represent RGS landuse designations, rather it describes the diversity of communities in this region, large and small.



Vision

The Fraser Valley Regional District will be a network of healthy, vibrant, distinct, and sustainable communities that accept responsibly managed growth while being committed to protecting the land resource and the natural environment to ensure that a high quality of life is accessible to all.

Guiding Principles

Collaboration

This plan represents a common, collaborative vision for the future of the region. As such, it will take action on the part of many to ensure its success. The nature and structure of the plan emphasize the importance of partnerships in achieving goals in the plan. In some cases, action will be taken at the individual level and in others it will require cooperation from all parties.

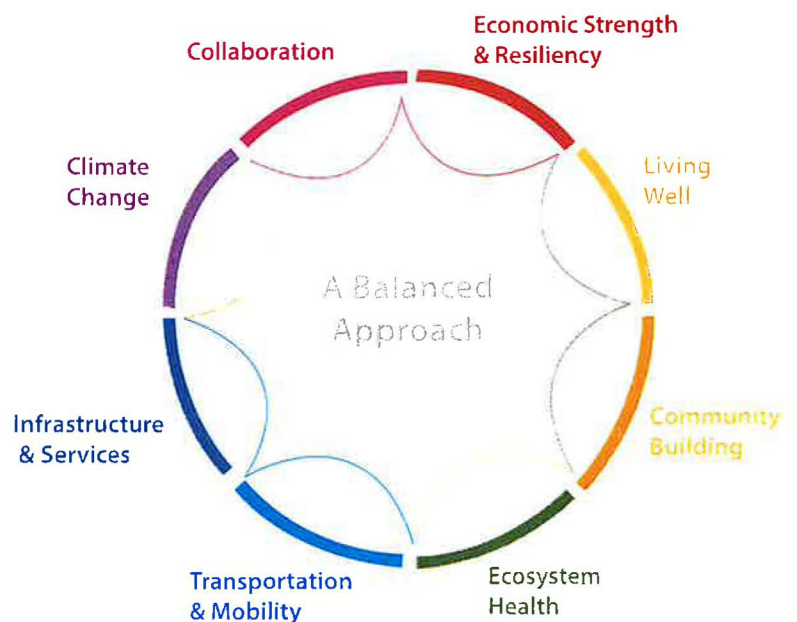
Collaboration among residents, member municipalities, neighbouring regional districts, Indigenous governments, the Province, and a range of stakeholders in creating and implementing this plan will ensure greater success in achieving the overall vision.



A Balanced Approach

A balanced approach to regional planning understands and takes into account the inherent complexities of goals and objectives that cross jurisdictional, cultural, or geographical boundaries. The goals and objectives that follow depend upon a thoroughly collaborative approach to decision-making that recognizes and values the unique challenges of all involved.

Objectives outlined in this plan should not be considered as independent but as working, interconnected parts of a larger whole.



Goals

Creating a strong, integrated region

In keeping with the guiding principles, it is important to recognize that the Regional Growth Strategy covers a wide range of topics, all of which are interconnected. Each individual action will influence decisions made in other areas. Embracing the interconnected nature of a regional growth strategy highlights the complexities and challenges that come with regional planning, at the same time demonstrating its potential to strengthen and enrich regional relationships through collaborative action.

Collaboration

Goal: *To achieve our common goals for the future of the region by encouraging collaboration between jurisdictions, cultures, and neighbours.*

Economic Strength & Resiliency

Goal: *To realize the region's economic potential by providing opportunities in employment and education that will grow the economy by building on the region's strengths.*

Living Well

Goal: *To ensure the region is an **inclusive** place where everyone is able to maintain a high quality of life, regardless of age, income, or ability.*

Community Building

Goal: *To create compact, complete communities that strengthen urban centres, maintain rural character, and offer choice and affordability in housing.*

Ecosystem Health

Goal: To protect the air, water, and biodiversity on which we depend.

Transportation & Mobility

Goal: To develop an integrated, safe, and efficient transportation system for people and goods that promotes transit, walking, and cycling, and minimizes the transportation system's impact on air quality.

Infrastructure & Services

Goal: To provide efficient, sustainable, and cost effective services that contribute to compact and sustainable growth.

Climate Change

Goal: To mitigate the region's impact on global climate change and adapt to the impacts of climate change on the region.

1.0 Collaboration

Goal: To achieve our common goals for the future of the region by encouraging collaboration between jurisdictions, cultures, and neighbours.

Implementing the RGS will require all levels of government, including Indigenous governments, health authorities, non-profits, the private sector, and the public to work together on shaping the future of the region. It will take cooperation and strong partnerships to achieve the goals outlined in the RGS and to ensure that the region as a whole is working toward a common future.

By working together, local governments have a stronger voice when addressing common issues. Collaborating on service delivery and pooling resources where feasible will build regional resilience.

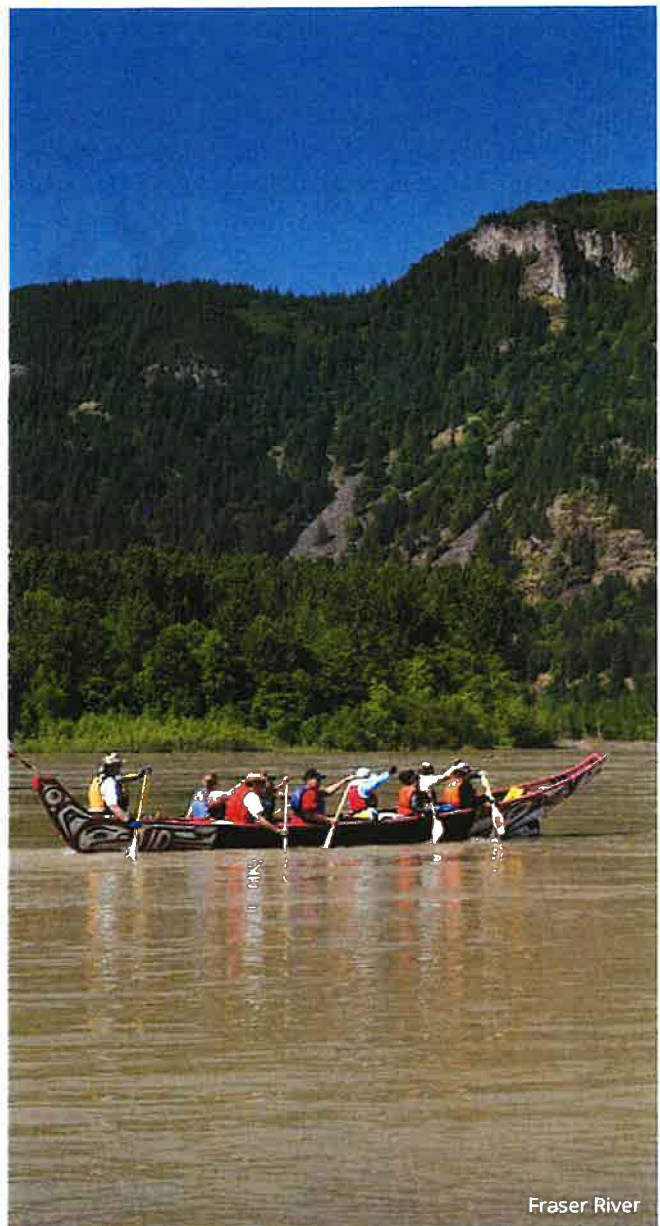
It is important for the region to plan collaboratively with Indigenous governments to find innovative and effective ways to meet the future needs of the region and Indigenous communities. Since 2001, the FVRD has signed five Memoranda of Understanding (MOU) with different Indigenous organizations for a range of purposes, from the sharing of bulk water to establishing and maintaining long-term cooperative relationships. A number of our municipalities also have MOUs and servicing agreements with adjacent Indigenous communities.

1.1 Build and strengthen relationships with Indigenous communities and governments

- a. Recognize that working with Indigenous communities will best serve all residents and facilitate cooperation by fostering a mutual understanding of governing structures, cultures, roles, and responsibilities.
- b. Develop sustaining relationships with Indigenous communities and governments which embody the principles of UNDRIP, by working together to develop a common vision for the future of the region, by remaining open, without prejudice to ongoing treaty and other negotiations, by using innovative opportunities for information sharing, and by coordination of planning and services in areas of mutual interest.
- c. Recognize and support work led by Indigenous governments, both established and developing self-governance structures, and advancing self-determination, as expressed in the principles of UNDRIP.
- d. Support establishing MOUs and service agreements between Indigenous and local governments that address issues of mutual concern, such as transit, transportation, and water and sewer systems that protect public health and the environment.

1.2 Work together to ensure success

- a. Collaborate with local governments, Indigenous governments, the provincial government, and stakeholders to develop services which provide mutual benefit and support to communities throughout the region.
- b. Collaborate to promote regional objectives, educate residents, pool resources, secure funding and investments, and to have a stronger voice.
- c. Recognize the importance of private and non-profit sectors in regional development, and foster partnerships with organizations and the business community that support the objectives of the RGS.
- d. Advocate for provincial support in realizing the stated objectives of the RGS and petition for more flexibility in terms of funding eligibility and requirements.
- e. Determine a mechanism for ongoing liaison, engagement, and adaptation between different levels of government.



2.0 Economic Strength & Resiliency

Goal: To realize the region's economic potential by providing opportunities in employment and education that will grow the economy by building on the region's strengths.

The economy of the Fraser Valley is strong, diverse, and expanding. Over the past fifty years, the region's economy has shifted from being resource-based to one that is highly diversified. Building complete communities that provide residents with jobs and services close to where they live can improve employment opportunities and contribute to local self-sufficiency and resiliency.

Recognizing our economic strengths and building on them is key to ensuring a healthy economy in the future. The *Clean Economy in the Fraser Valley* study has confirmed that the Fraser Valley has a solid foundation and set of underlying strengths to grow the region's clean economy. Agriculture remains at the core of the FVRD's economy, with the production of food and other agricultural products not only providing inputs to other sectors of the economy, but being itself a significant consumer of goods and services. The FVRD recognizes that 21st century agriculture will provide exciting opportunities in terms of technology and innovation, and that we are well positioned to capitalize on our competitive advantage of a strong and diverse agricultural economy.

Ensuring a strong economy also requires anticipating future demand, with examples including our growing tourism industry and film production activity. The abundance of and accessibility to nature, a growing demand for recreation, and our close proximity to Vancouver, make the FVRD well-situated to expand its share of the local tourism market. The Experience the Fraser Initiative (ETF) embodies this idea and is working to expand tourism opportunities throughout the region (*see page 30*). Manufacturing will continue to grow in the region and with population growth, there will be increased opportunities for employment in areas such as technology, health care, sales and services, business services, and others.

A regional economy is only as strong as its labour force. Making post-secondary education more accessible in the region will help to ensure a stronger labour force in the future. Programs that train employees in both established fields and emerging ones will not only strengthen the regional economy but may be the incentive younger residents need to study, work, and stay in the Fraser Valley.



Cascade Aerospace, Abbotsford

2.1 Create opportunities for employment and education

- a. Promote the development of a strong employment base and favourable investment climate by recognizing economic drivers and being flexible to take advantage of changing markets and new opportunities.
- b. Support initiatives that contribute to growth of a diversified economy.
- c. Develop and maintain a skilled labour force.
- d. Provide educational and employment opportunities in fields that will enable and encourage younger generations to remain in the Fraser Valley.
- e. Support initiatives that provide employment opportunities in rural communities and electoral areas, including Indigenous communities.
- f. Encourage mixed-use development and development that locates employment centres near residential areas to increase accessibility and minimize commuting.
- g. Improve the viability of smaller communities, including Indigenous communities, and help them adapt to economic change by advocating for improvements to internet access and other basic services that encourage innovative entrepreneurship in remote locations.
- h. Support equal access to employment or educational programs and initiatives for Indigenous Peoples.
- i. Work with local governments, Indigenous communities, senior governments, the private sector, and the public to implement the recommendations of the *Clean Economy in the Fraser Valley* study which supports the development of high-tech, professional, and green industry jobs.
- j. Work with internet service providers, the federal and provincial governments, and Indigenous

communities to improve broadband connectivity throughout the FVRD, including implementing the recommendations from the FVRD's *Rural Broadband Internet Connectivity Strategy*.

2.2 Promote growth and development in agriculture

- a. Work with the provincial government, Agricultural Land Commission, and local governments to maximize the productivity of agricultural lands, particularly for food production, and position the region as a leader in supporting diverse sectors such as the agricultural industry, technology, and innovation, in alignment with *The Future of B.C.'s Food System* report.
- b. Work with the provincial and federal governments to leverage our substantial agricultural research capacity to support and expand the region's agricultural-based economy.
- c. Work with municipalities and farm-based agencies to promote local agricultural production and increase public awareness of agricultural activities in the region.
- d. Encourage farm-based tourism and support efforts to strengthen the connection between farmers and residents.
- e. Work with the University of the Fraser Valley to further the potential of the Agriculture Centre of Excellence.
- f. Support the creation of Agricultural Area Plans to maximize the production potential of agricultural lands while protecting environmental and social values, and culturally significant sites.
- g. Work with local communities to minimize conflicts along the agricultural/urban interface.
- h. Work with the agriculture sector to address and mitigate climate change impacts identified in the *Fraser Valley B.C. Agriculture and Climate Change Regional Adaptation Strategies*.

2.3 Protect and support employment lands

- a. In collaboration with local governments, develop and maintain an employment lands inventory to ensure an adequate supply of industrial, agricultural, and commercial lands.
- b. Expand economic growth and productivity by exploring opportunities for clustering and intensifying industrial development in a manner that will create competitive advantages and foster collaboration between Indigenous communities, businesses, organizations, and government agencies.
- c. Protect the supply of industrial lands from non-industrial conversion to ensure future needs can be met.
- d. Work with Indigenous governments and the Province to ensure sustainable management of natural resources by using an integrated management approach, developing natural resource plans for the region, and acknowledging cumulative impacts on the environment and culturally sensitive sites.
- e. Work with the provincial government, Agricultural Land Commission, and other stakeholders to develop innovative approaches to address industrial land requirements without compromising the intent of the Agricultural Land Reserve.

2.4 Work to attain the region's full tourism potential

- a. Partner with member municipalities, Indigenous organizations, different levels of government, destination management organizations, and stakeholders to develop and coordinate a regional tourism strategy that will promote and protect the region's natural, cultural, and agricultural heritage and attract both residents and employers.
- b. Partner with member municipalities, Indigenous organizations, the Province, destination management organizations, and local businesses to realize the vision of the Experience the Fraser initiative and support the development of projects and initiatives that contribute to its long-term success.
- c. In collaboration with member municipalities, Indigenous governments, and the Province, pursue high value parks and recreational assets that strengthen the region's recreational tourism portfolio.
- d. Work with the Province to ensure that all regional parks are accessible by active transportation.
- e. Work with the Province and visitor management organizations to ensure that tourism sustains and restores natural spaces, and that the negative impacts of tourism are mitigated.
- f. Support local ecotourism initiatives that promote the region's parks, lakes, rivers, and natural areas, including the internationally recognized Chehalis Important Bird Area.





3.0 Living Well

Goal: To ensure the region is an inclusive place where everyone is able to maintain a high quality of life, regardless of age, income, or ability.

An important factor in maintaining a high quality of life is the ability of residents to preserve an adequate level of physical and mental health that enables them to enjoy the many cultural, recreational, and social opportunities the region has to offer. Providing access to healthy food as well as traditional harvesting sites, offering opportunities for active living, encouraging social inclusion, and continuing support for community and regional cultural initiatives all contribute to living well.

With a growing number of seniors but also many young families making the region home, a variety of services will be required to ensure a high quality of life for all. This can be especially challenging for seniors who often have greater health concerns and fewer financial resources. Our aging population will influence how facilities and amenities are used but also the demand for different services. Anticipating and planning for a growing senior population, while also making sure families and children have the supports and services they need, is essential for maintaining high quality of life at every age.

An extensive and well-managed outdoor recreation system is another factor in maintaining a high quality of life. Greenspace and trails are highly valued by the region's residents for a number of reasons: easy access to nature, the wide variety of recreational opportunities it offers, and the health benefits it provides. It can also have cultural significance for Indigenous Peoples, containing harvesting and hunting sites, or areas where cultural activities are practiced.

The Lower Mainland's growing population and an escalating interest in outdoor recreation will only increase the demand for outdoor recreational opportunities in the region. As park usage climbs, pressures on the parks and trails will mount. Maintaining current services at existing recreation sites, adjusting to demographic-led shifts in usage, and finding suitable, accessible areas to designate as new parkland will be increasingly challenging.

Fortunately, the region will have opportunities to leverage our natural assets in ways that are both sustainable and economically advantageous. By planning ahead, we can ensure that everyone has access to nature and outdoor recreation opportunities.

3.1 Promote healthy and inclusive living

- a. Create an environment in which residents of all ages, abilities, incomes, and cultures can access the mental, social, and physical support they need to live healthy and fulfilling lives.
- b. Ensure that land use, transportation, and other planning decisions at the regional level consider public health impacts.
- c. Support initiatives, programs, and research targeted at maintaining a healthy senior population in the region.
- d. Support the development of child care spaces to meet the needs of working families.
- e. Promote increased local access to healthy and affordable food.
- f. Encourage the development of a strategy to address food security at the regional level.
- g. Work with Indigenous organizations to ensure access to culturally significant ceremonial, harvesting, fishing, and hunting areas.

3.2 Support arts and culture initiatives

- a. Work with Indigenous organizations, non-profits and all levels of government to find innovative ways to support arts and cultural initiatives that promote cultural inclusion, increase opportunities to experience and celebrate the region, and enhance quality of life.
- b. Create a strong regional identity that is based on and highlights the region's cultural, natural, and agricultural assets.

3.3 Protect and enhance parks and recreation lands

- a. Work with member municipalities, electoral areas, Indigenous organizations, neighbouring regional districts, the Province, and the public to develop an accessible and integrated network of parks, green spaces, waterways, and trail networks, in alignment with the *Trails Strategy for B.C.*, which accommodates the growing demand for recreational opportunities while minimizing the impact to the natural environment or adjacent communities, including communities on-reserve.
- b. Promote physical health and active living through parks and recreation programs and events.
- c. Support the Experience the Fraser project and its commitment to enhancing cultural and recreational opportunities along the Fraser River through the development of partnerships, trail construction and improvements, and efforts to help celebrate the Fraser River and the communities that have been shaped by it.
- d. Implement the action steps of the *Regional Parks Strategic Plan* to guide regional park management, improvements, and acquisitions over the next decade.
- e. Recognize the regional, interregional, and international role of parks and recreation and encourage all levels of cooperation and support to maintain and enhance these lands and facilities.
- f. Implement the actions of the *Outdoor Recreation Management Plan*.
- g. Consider establishing a Regional Land Acquisition Strategy and fund for acquiring parks and recreation lands.



Map 4. Parks and Protected Areas



- Community/Municipal Park
- Regional Park
- Provincial Park
- Protected Area
- Conservancy
- Ecological Reserve
- Recreation Area

Existing Trail Networks

- Trans-Canada Trail

Proposed Trail Networks

- Experience the Fraser Canyon to Coast Trail
- Kettle Valley Trail

FVRD Jurisdictions





Map 5. Experience the Fraser Initiative

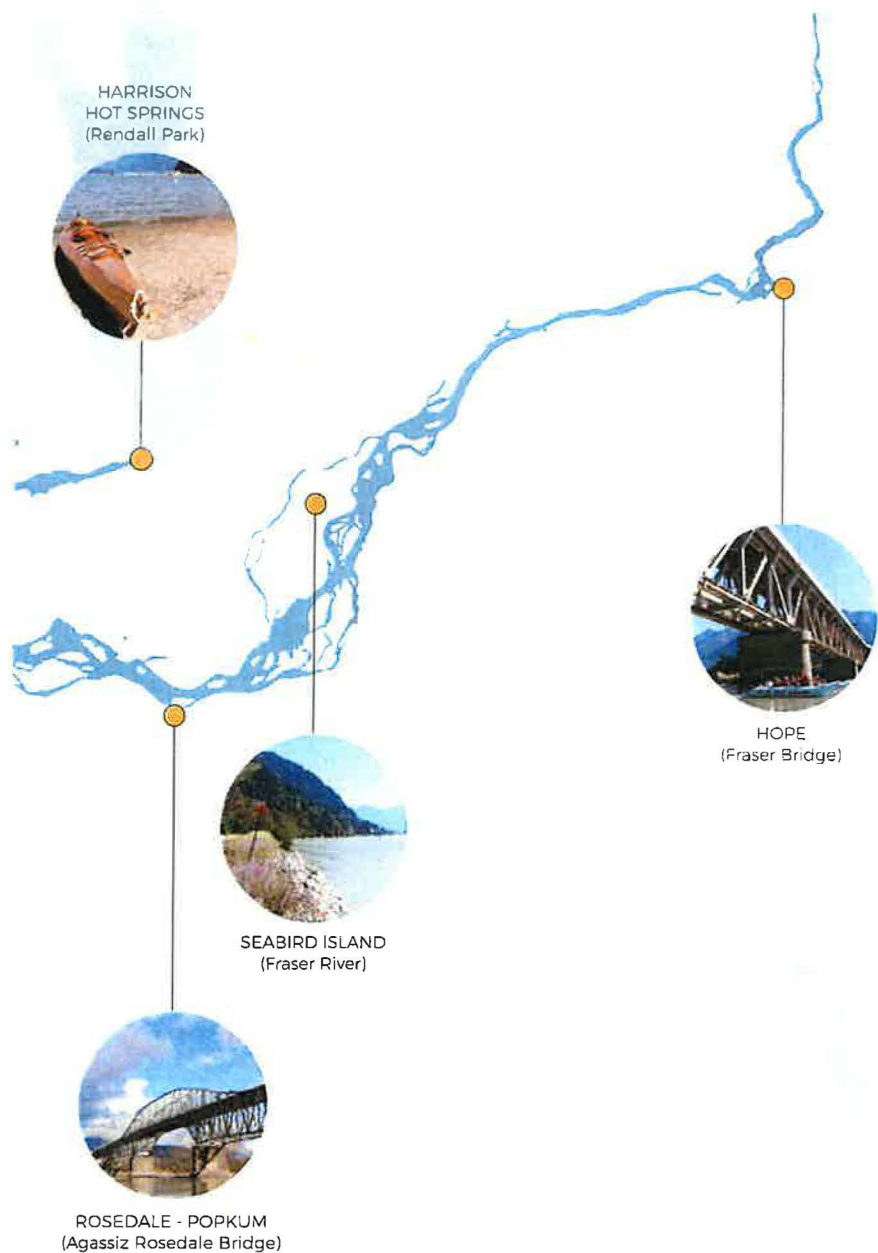
Experience the Fraser (ETF) is a unique vision to connect communities, parks, natural features, historic, and cultural sites and experiences along the Lower Fraser River. In 2009, the project began with a partnership between the Province of British Columbia, Fraser Valley Regional District, and Metro Vancouver to showcase the Fraser River as a world class recreational, cultural, and heritage destination. ETF is now being led by Destination BC, a provincial Crown corporation, through the implementation of the *Fraser Valley Destination Development Strategy*.

Since the beginning of ETF, many Indigenous communities within the Project Area have participated. The success of ETF is reliant on furthering existing and developing new partnerships among Indigenous communities, the private sector, citizens, and different levels of government.



ETF is a long-term project that will be implemented by many, over decades. The ETF Concept Plan expresses the project's vision and goals and presents a framework for the development of both land and water based initiatives.

When completed, ETF will connect Hope to the Salish Sea along the Canyon to Coast Trail and Blueway. In fact, one can experience the many kilometres of trails and other amenities at several destination nodes that are already in place throughout the trail corridor.



4.0 Community Building

Goal: To create compact, complete communities that strengthen urban centres, maintain rural character, and offer choice and affordability in housing.

Over the next 30 years the FVRD will absorb an additional 163,000 residents. The Regional Growth Boundary (RGB) encompasses 1.5% of the region's total land base. It is expected that about 90% of this growth will occur within the RGB, with the remaining growth occurring in the region's more rural areas.

Encouraging the development of compact and complete communities, whether urban or rural, will help to reduce our impact on the surrounding natural environment, promote a more active lifestyle, improve access to economic and social opportunities, and enable more efficient distribution of services such as transit, utilities, and water, that benefit residents of all ages.

One important sign of a healthy community is housing diversity that meets the needs of all residents no matter their age, income, or ability. Planning for a wide range of housing now will ensure demand for accessible, affordable, and adaptable housing will be met in the future.

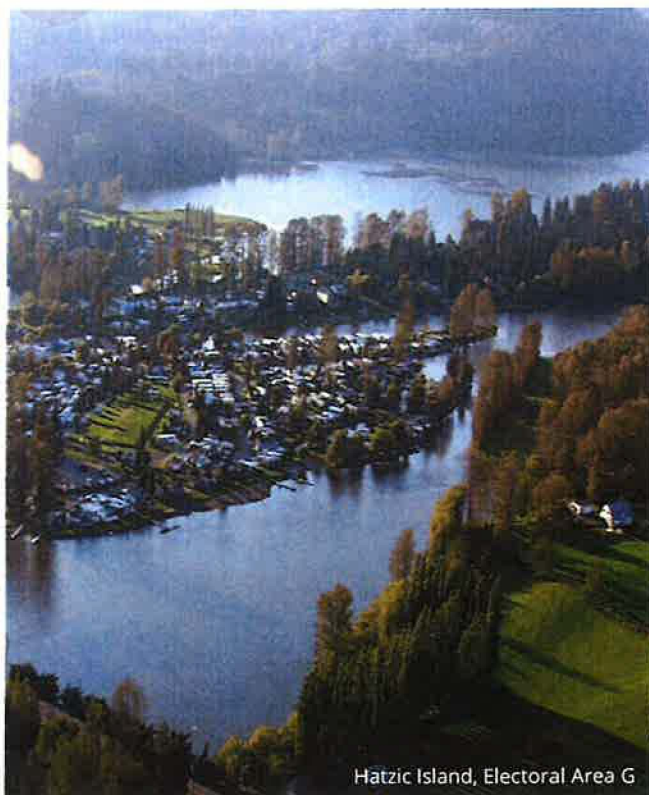


4.1 Concentrate growth in urban centres

- a. Focus urban development within established Regional Growth Boundaries, around existing downtown cores and transit hubs, and require that amendments to the RGB be referred to the FVRD Board (see page 55 for Amendment Process).
- b. Support official community plans and zoning bylaws that integrate land uses with transit service and active transportation routes, and encourage infill, redevelopment, densification, and mixed-use as a means of creating more compact development patterns and housing affordability, particularly around downtown cores and neighbourhood centres.
- c. Encourage mixed-use Transit Oriented Development at key locations to support municipal and regional transit services.
- d. Encourage development that is sensitive to the sense of place, history, and unique character of each community.
- e. Support energy efficient development and urban design techniques that promote efficient use of energy resources and existing infrastructure.
- f. Support development patterns that minimize development costs, life cycle costs, and risks associated with flood, geotechnical, and environmental constraints.

4.2 Maintain the character of rural communities in electoral areas

- a. Concentrate growth within existing rural communities, and encourage compact, energy efficient development that minimizes infrastructure and development costs, and is financially self-sufficient.
- b. Recognize the regional role of rural areas and communities in attracting and supporting tourism, providing recreation and natural resources, and encourage regional cooperation and support to ensure rural areas, often with limited resources, can continue to provide these services.
- c. Ensure adjacent land uses are compatible and minimize conflict where residential areas, including reserves, border natural resources operations on public, private, and Crown lands.
- d. Limit development in areas with flood, geotechnical, and environmental hazards to minimize any risk to public safety.
- e. Seek the cooperation of senior levels of government to create policies and programs that will improve the land use management of Crown lands.
- f. Given increasing growth pressures in rural parts of the region, explore potential regional growth management policies for rural electoral areas.



4.3 Promote sustainable regionally-scaled resort development

- a. Ensure resort development proposals have undergone meaningful engagement, collaboration, or partnership with Indigenous communities that meets the standard of free, prior, and informed consent.
- b. Advocate that the Province consider the Regional Growth Strategy when reviewing resort proposals and related community development.
- c. Support resort developments that protect public investments by demonstrating financial self-sufficiency with regards to the provision of community-wide infrastructure and servicing.
- d. Support compact, complete resort development that provides for the needs of both visitors and residents, minimizes the ecological and cultural impact on surrounding natural environment, protects the scale and character of surrounding areas, and adheres to high energy efficiency standards.
- e. On a case-by-case basis, consider establishing a threshold at which it would be mutually beneficial for a resort development to consider transitioning to a resort municipality or other form of governance, and develop a process that will facilitate a smooth transition.
- f. Require that emergency management plans be developed by project proponents to ensure the safety of resort residents, employees, and visitors in the event of an emergency.

4.4 Ensure housing choice and affordability

- a. Work with local governments, Indigenous governments, and stakeholders to monitor and address housing affordability at a regional level.
- b. Ensure housing choice for residents of all ages, ability, and income by promoting innovation and diversity, and by encouraging the application of Provincial Adaptable Standards for new housing developments.
- c. Support local government efforts to complete Housing Needs Reports (HNR) as per Section 585.2 of the *Local Government Act*.
- d. When developing housing policies, consider the needs of agricultural workers, including temporary foreign workers.
- e. Support proposals for new residential development which provide a component of seniors housing, affordable housing, special needs housing, and the use of adaptive housing construction methods.
- f. Continue working with community partners and other levels of government to address homelessness.
- g. Advocate for increased federal and provincial action to address homelessness, mental health, and addictions issues in the region.
- h. Advocate that the federal and provincial government develop strategies to address homelessness in rural areas.
- i. Promote home energy conservation and the use of energy efficiency measures as a means of reducing housing costs.





Map 6. Regional Growth Boundaries & Agricultural Land Reserve

-  FVRD Jurisdictions
-  Regional Growth Boundary (RGB)*
-  ALR Lands
-  Highways
-  First Nations Reserve Lands

* The Regional Growth Boundary is intended to contain most of the future industrial, institutional, commercial, and residential growth over the next 30 years. Areas within the RGB are allocated for growth at higher urban densities and reflect municipal OCPs.

Agricultural Land Reserve Special Status

-  Conditional Exclusion*
-  Municipal Special Study Area

*Lands excluded from the ALR subject to conditions established by the Agricultural Land Commission (ALC).

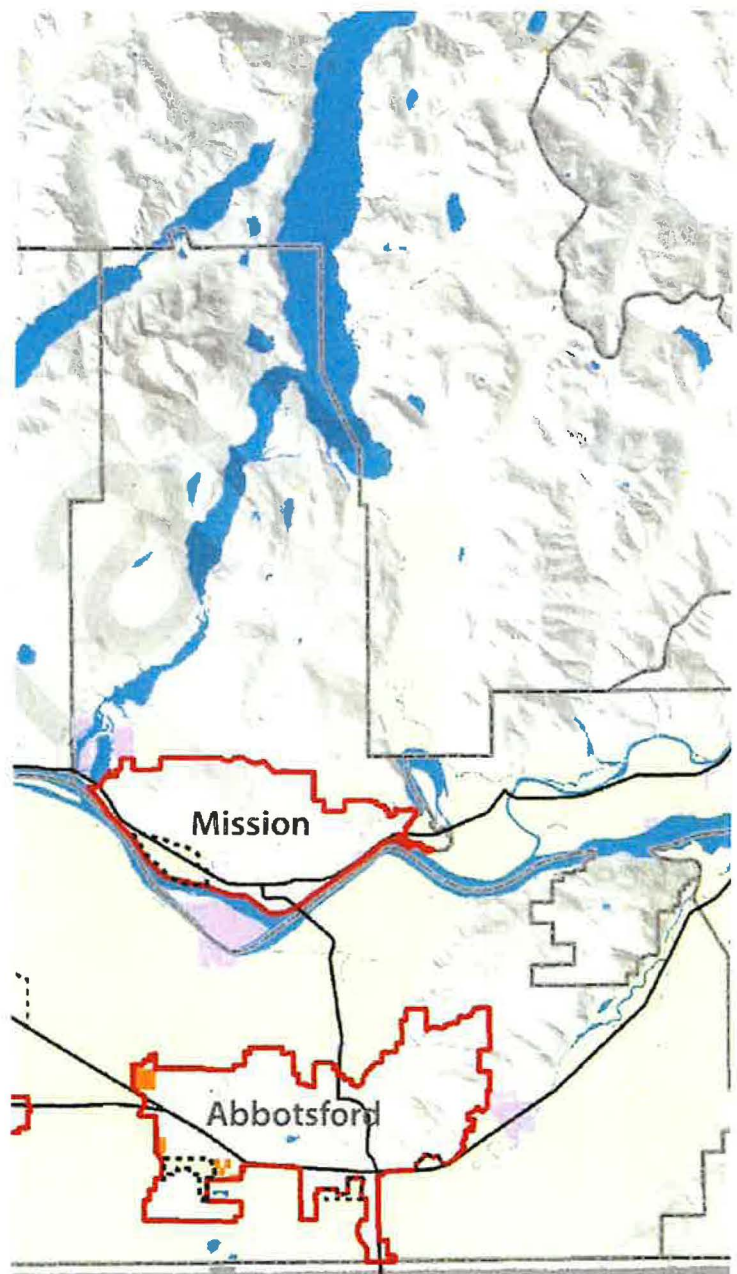
Notes for Map 6 and Map 7:

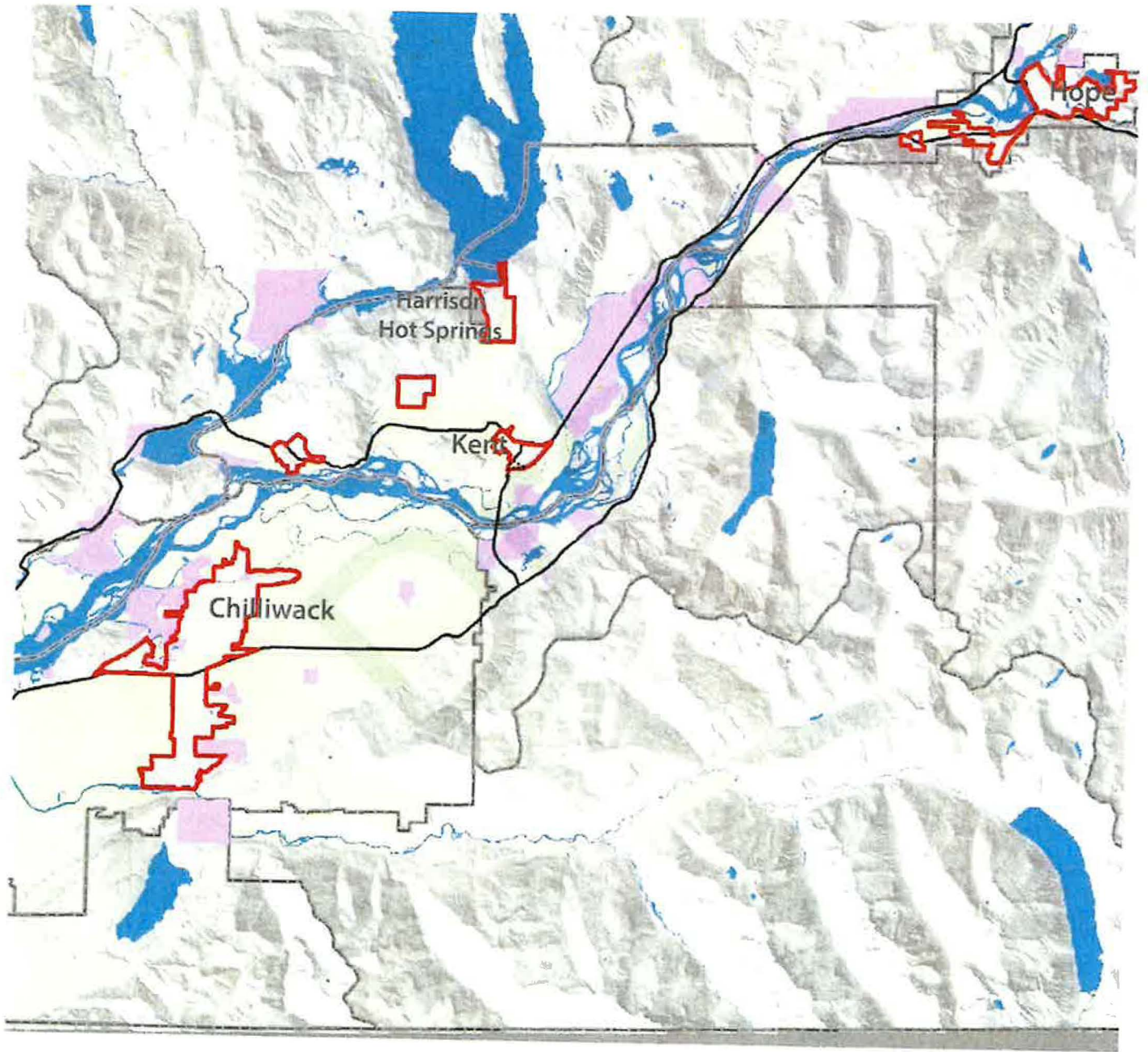
Any non-agricultural development within overlapping ALR/RGB areas must be consistent with the Agricultural Land Commission Act and related regulations.

Conditional exclusion areas or other lands identified as municipal special study areas are subject to meeting ALC conditions. Land development decisions should not be based on this map.

Contact municipal planning departments for specific land use regulations that apply within each respective jurisdiction. The FVRD planning and development department should be contacted for lands outside municipal boundaries.

Furthermore, lands on this map may be impacted by various geo-technical and environmental constraints. No attempt is made here to indicate potential or existing development constraints. First Nations Reserve Lands are not subject to the Regional Growth Strategy or Agricultural Land Commission Act.





Map 7. Regional Growth Boundaries & Agricultural Land Reserve by Municipality

 Regional Growth Boundary

 ALR Lands

 Highways

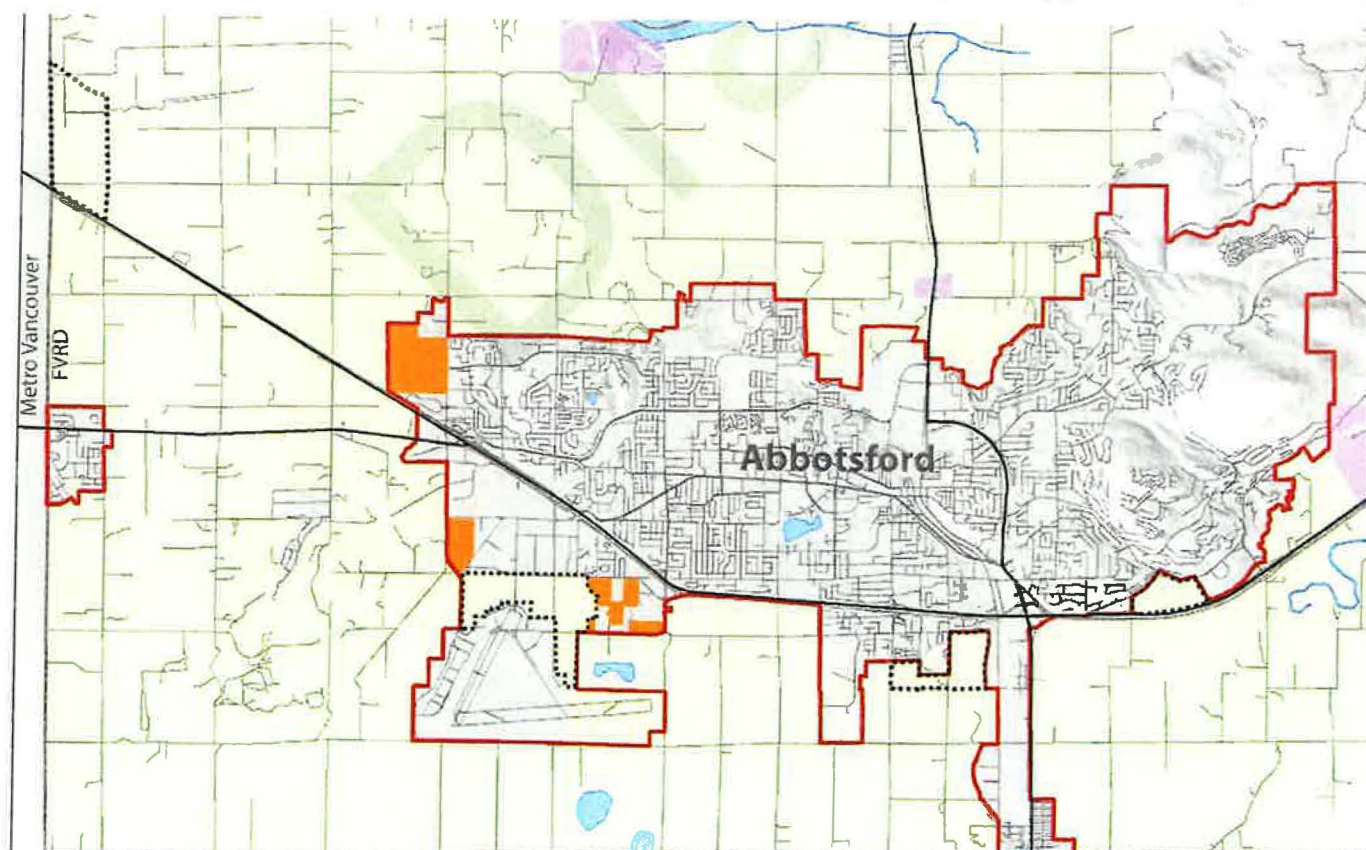
 Roads

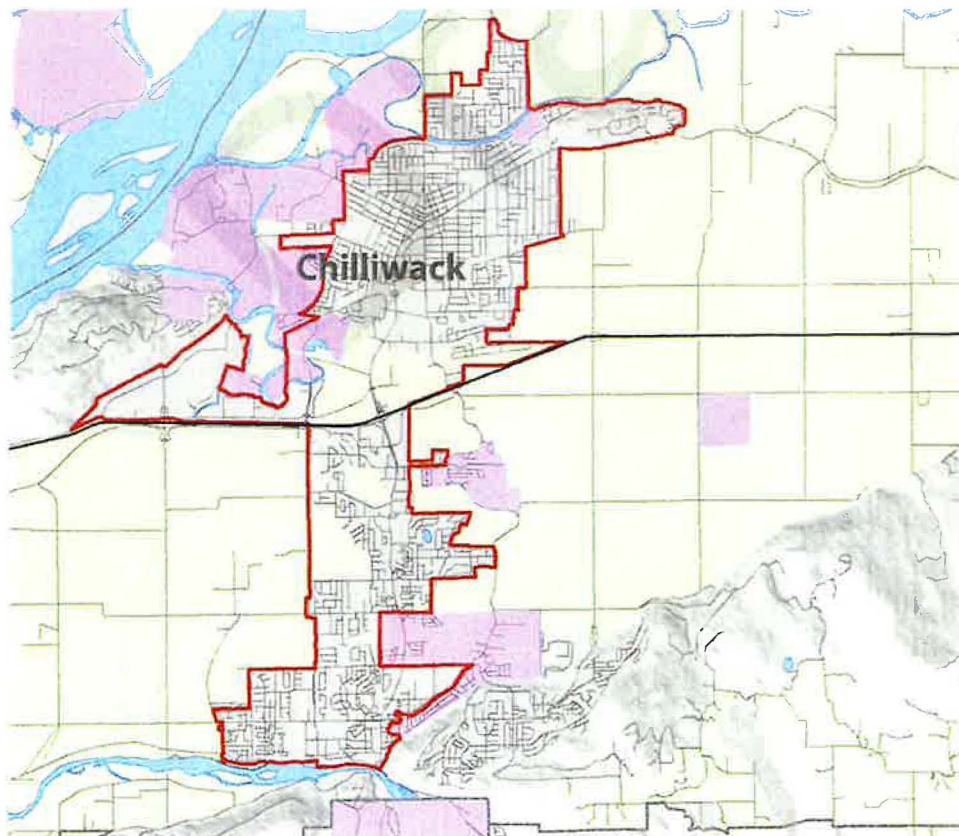
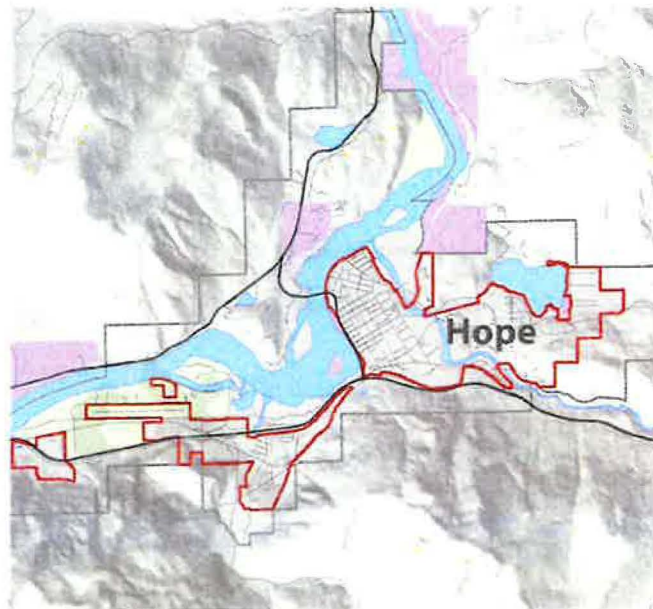
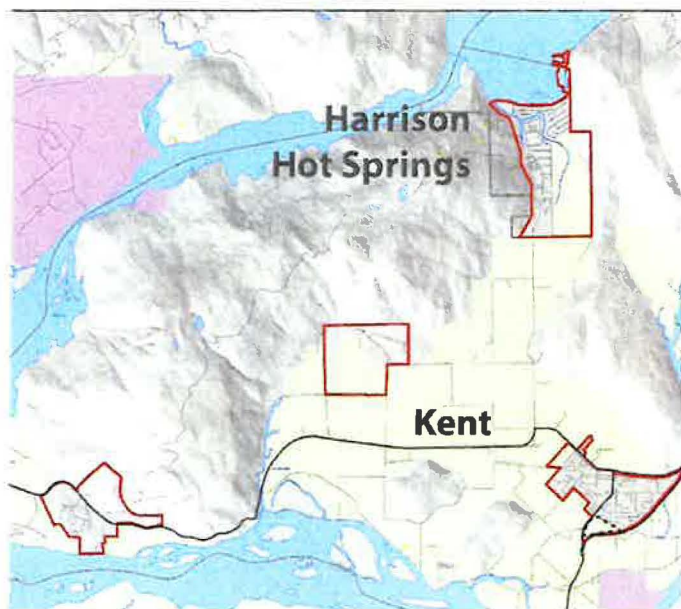
 Municipal Special Study Areas

 First Nations Reserve Lands

Agricultural Land Reserve Special Status

 Conditional Exclusion





5.0 Ecosystem Health

Goal: *To protect the air, water, and biodiversity on which we depend.*

The exceptional natural environment of the region supports some of the most productive forests in British Columbia, one of the largest salmon spawning populations in the province, and over 100 endangered or threatened species.

The region depends on high levels of biodiversity to provide the foundation for the continued health and sustainability of not only the natural environment, but of the region as a whole by providing us with needed resources, jobs, recreational opportunities, and an improved quality of life. For Indigenous Peoples, the connection to the natural environment has significant cultural value, and plays an important role in ongoing spiritual well-being.

As the region's population grows and development pressures increase, balancing the impacts of growth with the cultural and ecological sensitivity of the environment, which supports these activities, will become an increasingly significant and critical challenge. Land use planning processes provide an important opportunity to protect and restore natural and cultural assets.

5.1 Monitor, study, protect, and improve air quality

- a. Continue to study and monitor air quality throughout the region, and expand the monitoring network as needed.
- b. Support land use development, initiatives, and programs across all sectors that protect air quality and reduce harmful emissions.
- c. Update and implement the regional Air Quality Management Plan.
- d. Collaborate with Indigenous governments, Metro Vancouver, Whatcom County, local governments, and other stakeholders on a continuing basis to improve air quality in the Lower Mainland.
- e. Advocate for provincial and federal support of measures to protect the region's sensitive airshed.
- f. Educate the public on the causes and impacts of degraded air quality, and what they can do to improve air quality.

5.2 Protect watershed health

- a. Take water quality, ecological health, and cumulative impacts into consideration in regional planning, land use planning, and resource management decisions to address cumulative impacts on watersheds.
- b. Support initiatives that restore, protect, and provide education about life supporting qualities of streams, rivers, lakes, wetlands, and riparian areas in the region.
- c. Consider establishing a water quality monitoring system throughout the region.
- d. Support the implementation of best management practices for water conservation and storm water management, including green infrastructure.
- e. Protect surface and groundwater and maintain good soil health by supporting the implementation of best management practices that minimize soil contamination and erosion, and reduce runoff and leaching into aquifers and surface water.
- f. Continue to support initiatives that enhance the stewardship of soil, agricultural waste, water, air, and habitat resources, including agricultural lands.
- g. Work with all levels of governments to manage water supply, recognizing increasing seasonal water scarcity in the region.
- h. Work with all levels of governments to protect and restore waterways to support fish populations in the region.

5.3 Protect biodiversity

- a. Encourage compact development that respects environmental constraints and limits development in ecologically sensitive or hazardous areas.
- b. Work with member municipalities, Indigenous governments, neighbouring regional districts, and the Province to identify, protect, and enhance ecologically sensitive areas, natural assets, and wildlife corridors.
- c. Continue to partner with all levels of government, including Indigenous governments and non-profit organizations to engage volunteers, restore damaged habitat, and monitor long-term ecological health within the region.
- d. Continue working with stakeholders and adjacent jurisdictions on controlling the introduction and spread of invasive species in the region.
- e. Continue working with stakeholders and adjacent jurisdictions on increasing awareness of species at risk in the region, their critical habitat, and measures that can be taken for their protection and recovery.
- f. Continue to educate the public, decision-makers, and other stakeholders on the importance of ecological health and how it relates to human health.
- g. Advocate for provincial and federal support of measures to protect the region's ecological health.



6.0 Transportation & Mobility

Goal: To develop an integrated, safe, and efficient transportation system for people and goods that promotes transit, walking, and cycling, and minimizes the transportation system's impact on air quality.

The region's transportation network connects our communities and workplaces, facilitating the flow of goods and services that keep our economy moving forward. As the region strives for higher levels of choice and efficiency in transportation systems, integrated transportation and land use planning will be essential. While a wider range of transportation options will contribute to improved mobility for all residents, promoting compact, mixed-use development within established community centres can also reduce car dependency and encourage walking, cycling, and other forms of active transportation.

In 2010, 58% of greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions in the Fraser Valley came from on-road transportation*. To reduce GHG emissions, it will be necessary to decrease our dependency on the car. Reducing distances to jobs, schools, and services while at the same time expanding transportation options to include public transit while promoting active transportation such as walking and cycling has the potential to greatly reduce emissions and traffic congestion, reduce transportation costs, improve air quality, support the health and wellness of residents and visitors, and improve access to economic and social opportunities and services.

Efforts to increase transit's mode share and BC Transit's commitment to operating a low-carbon, fully electric fleet by 2040 will help the region meet its GHG reduction goals.

The significant expansion of the Port of Vancouver will see a corresponding increase of rail traffic through the FVRD's urban and rural communities. Expanded rail capacity need not be at the expense of other transport modes within the region. Senior governments will need to work with the FVRD and its member municipalities to reduce conflicts between transport modes to ensure the efficient movement of goods and services throughout the region.

*Government of British Columbia. 2014. *Fraser Valley Regional District 2010 Community Energy and Emissions Inventory*.

6.1 Create a region-wide network of affordable and convenient transportation options that safely and efficiently facilitates the movement of people and goods

- a. Encourage integrated transportation and land use planning to minimize infrastructure costs, support transit-oriented development, support multi-modal transportation, and reduce GHG emissions.
- b. Maintain and improve existing transportation corridors by implementing the region's transportation priorities (see Map 8).
- c. Work with BC Transit, TransLink, and other regional partners to establish and expand - as required by growth - a reliable, accessible, affordable, and regionally integrated public transit system that links communities both within and outside the region (see Map 9).
- d. Explore innovative ways to address transportation needs in rural areas, including collaborating with Indigenous communities.
- e. Encourage the Province to prioritize the maintenance of resource roads that Indigenous Peoples rely upon for access to their communities.
- f. Work with BC Transit and local governments to establish a region-wide marketing campaign with the aim of increasing transit ridership.
- g. Encourage BC Transit to transition quickly to an electrified, low carbon fleet in the Fraser Valley to improve air quality in the region.
- h. Work with local governments, Indigenous governments, and stakeholders to set

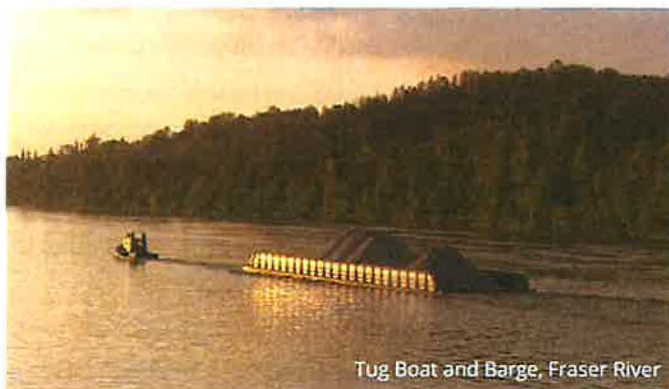
transportation standards and priorities, identify core transit corridors, protect Rights of Way and explore funding options.

- i. Promote and support shared mobility options such as car share and bike share programs.
- j. Provide on-going support to the region's airports, including Abbotsford International Airport, to ensure long-term viability.
- k. Encourage the integration of existing railway infrastructure and waterway transportation systems into regional plans.
- l. Work together with the federal and provincial governments, and neighbouring regional districts to facilitate the movement of goods to, from, and through the Fraser Valley.
- m. Encourage the Province to consider increased and diversified rapid transportation options for the long-term, including the potential for rail transit opportunities.

6.2 Promote active and alternative forms of transportation that prioritize pedestrians and cyclists

- a. Support development practices and land use policy that minimizes the use of cars and encourage walking, bicycling, and public transit within and between communities, including Indigenous communities on-reserves.

- b. Consider including multi-modal transportation (i.e. bike lanes, walking paths) as a part of the standard for all road upgrades for commuting and recreation purposes.
- c. Pursue funding opportunities and encourage investment in the necessary infrastructure (i.e., sidewalks, bike paths, trails, benches, and bus shelters) that will make walking, cycling, and transit accessible to all ages and abilities, and more convenient to promote behavior change.
- d. Support the inclusion of electric vehicle charging infrastructure in new residential developments.
- e. Work with BC Hydro and other partners to coordinate locations of electric vehicle charging stations and associated infrastructure.
- f. Consider opportunities to utilize utility and rail corridors or other right-of-way agreements for the expansion of the recreational trail network.
- g. Consider Transportation Demand Management, reducing parking requirements where appropriate, and other strategies that encourage the development of a multi-modal transportation system and reduce long-term impact to air quality.
- h. Continue to educate the public, decision-makers, and other stakeholders on the benefits of alternative forms of transportation.



Tug Boat and Barge, Fraser River



Electric Vehicle Charging, FVRD

Map 8. Regional Transportation Priorities

Except for Priority 1, priorities are not listed in order of importance. Letters and numbers have been used solely for the purposes of identifying priorities on the map. Priorities were established in collaboration with member municipalities.

- Highways
- Arterial Roads
- Collector Roads

● Critical Priorities

1. Hwy 1 - Extension of HOV/transit lanes through FVRD
 - 1.1. Hwy 1 at Peardonville Rd - Overpass replacement
 - 1.2. Hwy 1 at Highway 11 - Interchange replacement and park and ride
 - 1.3. Hwy 1 at Whatcom Rd - Interchange improvements and park and ride
 - 1.4. Hwy 1 at Vedder Canal - Re-alignment and widening
 - 1.5. Hwy 1 at Lickman Rd - Interchange improvements and park and ride

● High Priorities

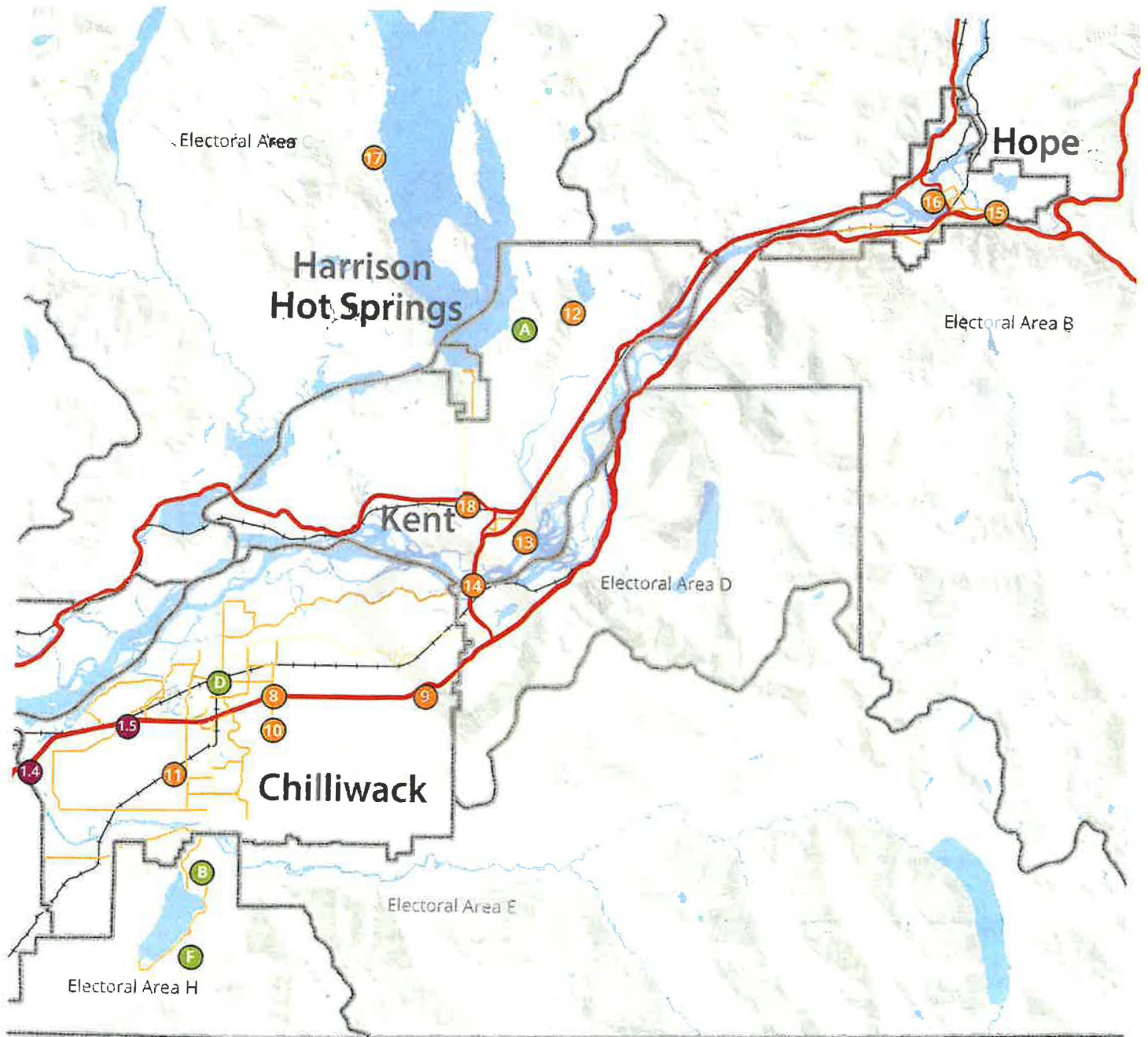
2. Marshall Rd extension - King Rd to Mt. Lehman
3. Fraser Hwy widening - Mt. Lehman to Aldergrove
4. Maclure Rd - Connector between Hwy 11 to McCallum
5. Hwy 7 widening - Mission to Maple Ridge
6. North of Fraser transit connections - West to Maple Ridge & east to District of Kent
7. Bypass between Hwy 7 and 1st Ave (Mission)
8. Hwy 1 at Prest - Interchange upgrade
9. Hwy 1 at Annis Rd - Interchange upgrade
10. Prest Rd upgrade - Chilliwack Central to Bailey
11. Valley Rail Trail south to Yarrow (Active transportation)
12. Emergency access route Rockwell to Lougheed Hwy
13. Bypass between Hwy 7 & Haig Hwy
14. Rosedale Bridge seismic and safety retrofits
15. Othello Road improvements (Hope)
16. Fraser Bridge pedestrian crossing (ETF - Hope active transportation)
17. West-side Harrison Lake to Lillooet Lake - FSR Improvements
18. Highway 7 at Hot Springs Rd - Intersection upgrade
19. Highway 7 Dewdney Bridge replacement

● Medium/Long-Term Priorities

- A. Rockwell Drive Upgrades
- B. Cultus Lake - Emergency access route
- C. Vedder Way extension - Lonzo Rd to McClary Ave under Hwy 1
- D. CN grade Separation at Young Road
- E. McKee Rd upgrade - New overpass over Hwy 11 to George Ferguson
- F. Columbia Valley Hwy - Pedestrian and bike lane upgrades



*Regional transportation priorities being finalized

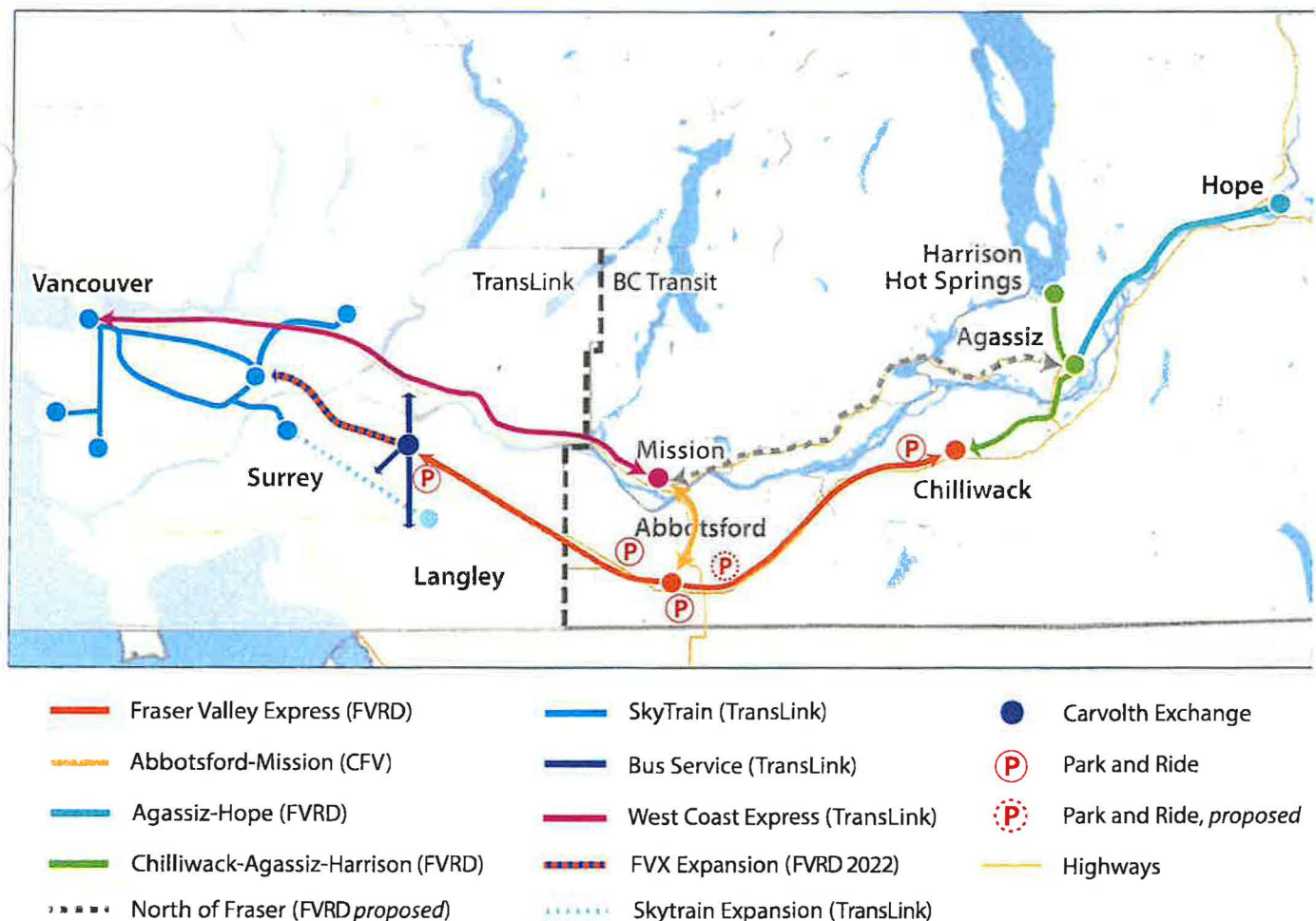


Map 9. Regional Transit Network

The *Strategic Review of Transit in the Fraser Valley (2010)* was a partnership between the Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure, FVRD, BC Transit, and TransLink. It provided a 25 to 30 year vision and a 20 year strategy to guide the significant expansion of transit services, facilities, and policies needed to make transit an attractive transportation choice for Fraser Valley residents and visitors.

The FVRD's inter- and intra-regional transit network is a product of the *Strategic Review* and subsequent *Transit Future Plans*. New services are being implemented, some well before the timelines set out in the *Strategic Review*, demonstrating the FVRD's commitment toward supporting more sustainable land use patterns, providing attractive transportation alternatives, and reducing greenhouse gases.

Until recently, the lack of integrated transportation services between Metro Vancouver and the FVRD and its communities forced residents and visitors to primarily travel by private vehicle. Improved transit service between Harrison Hot Springs and Chilliwack, the introduction of the Fraser Valley Express (FVX) between the City of Chilliwack, City of Abbotsford, and Metro Vancouver, and a new connection between the Districts of Hope and Kent, represent a significant expansion of transit in the region. In 2022, the FVX service expanded to connect directly with SkyTrain at the Lougheed Town Centre Station in Burnaby. These routes add to existing inter-municipal connections within the FVRD and the inter-regional rail connection provided by West Coast Express.





7.0 Infrastructure & Services

Goal: To provide efficient, sustainable, and cost effective services that contribute to compact and sustainable growth.

Like most regions across Canada, communities in the Fraser Valley are feeling pressure to upgrade and expand their infrastructure to meet growing demand. A large share of financial resources goes into infrastructure, especially as the costs of maintaining aging infrastructure continues to grow. Given the significant costs associated with infrastructure development, municipalities and electoral areas are in the position of having to make difficult decisions that directly impact the lives of residents.

Building more compact communities is one of the most effective ways to reduce infrastructure costs. Compact development minimizes the need for new and expanded systems and reduces maintenance costs over the long-term. To manage aging infrastructure, communities throughout the region have expressed interest in finding ways to collaborate that will be more cost effective and share the burden of liability.

In the FVRD's 2016 Solid Waste Management Plan, the region set an ambitious target to achieve 90% diversion rate by 2025. Achieving this goal will require commitments from both the public and private sectors to more effectively manage and reduce the overall amount of solid waste produced in the region. It will also require taking a more innovative approach to solid waste management practices, and a high level of public education. The region is committed to finding solutions that effectively manage waste without impacting air quality.

In addition to the services that affect our daily lives are those services we hope we never have to use. Climate change is expected to lead to more extreme weather events, and the region will need to adapt to these new conditions and be prepared to respond to emergencies resulting from these events. Emergency services help to encourage public preparedness, ensure that organizations are prepared in the event of an emergency, and that plans are in place to mitigate any disasters. The region will continue to develop and expand these services in ways that are adequate, safe, efficient, and ensure sustainable development over the long-term.

7.1 Provide safe and efficient access to basic utilities

- a. Ensure rural communities have access to effective and efficient water and sewer systems that protect public health and the environment and support establishing MOUs with Indigenous communities which will improve basic utilities.
- b. Support the installation and maintenance of water and sewer systems that have high design standards, encourage compact development, and are environmentally, economically, and socially sustainable.
- c. Explore the viability of green infrastructure and new and emerging technologies that can improve efficiencies and minimize future infrastructure investments.
- d. Clarify existing partnerships and explore new opportunities for joint ventures and cost sharing when building new infrastructure projects and maintain aging infrastructure to achieve economies of scale.

7.2 Ensure responsible management of solid waste

- a. Implement the FVRD's Solid Waste Management Plan to effectively manage and reduce the region's solid waste.
- b. Commit to achieving Zero Waste over the long-term, applying strategies that will not negatively affect air quality.
- c. Educate the public on sustainable waste management practices (i.e. zero waste, recycling,

composting, and Advanced Material Recovery).

- d. Consider a regional approach to waste management for materials recovery in order to achieve economies of scale and meet regional waste diversion goals.

7.3 Ensure public safety through emergency management planning

- a. Evaluate potential impacts of emergency events across the region on a continual basis and support measures to mitigate disasters.
- b. Continue working with the Fraser Basin Council, regional partners, and senior governments on the Lower Mainland Flood Management Strategy initiative.
- c. Continue to implement the FireSmart program and community wildfire protection plans.
- d. Consider developing - in collaboration with Indigenous communities and local governments - a regional system for hazard management.
- e. Collaborate with the Province to identify and address emergency services gaps in rural areas, particularly in regards to wildfire, flooding, and landslide risks near highways and residential areas.
- f. Collaborate with local governments, Indigenous governments, the provincial and federal

governments, and outside agencies to develop strategies for community recovery and resiliency should an emergency occur.

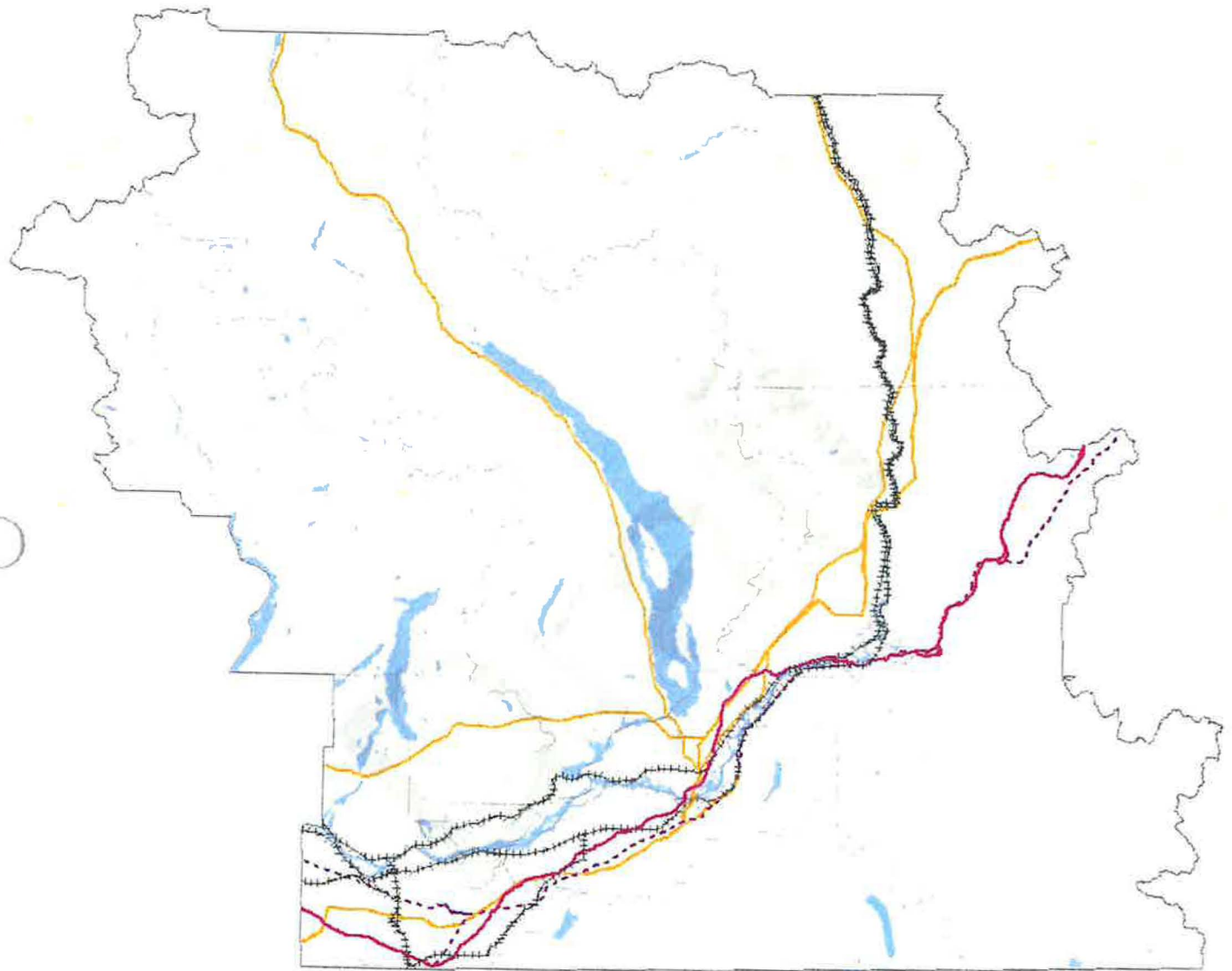
- g. Advocate that senior governments develop a plan for alternative access and evacuation should an emergency event block a major transportation corridor within the region.
- h. Explore regional and sub-regional partnerships for emergency management planning and emergency support services.

7.4 Minimize the impact of large-scale utility corridors that traverse the region

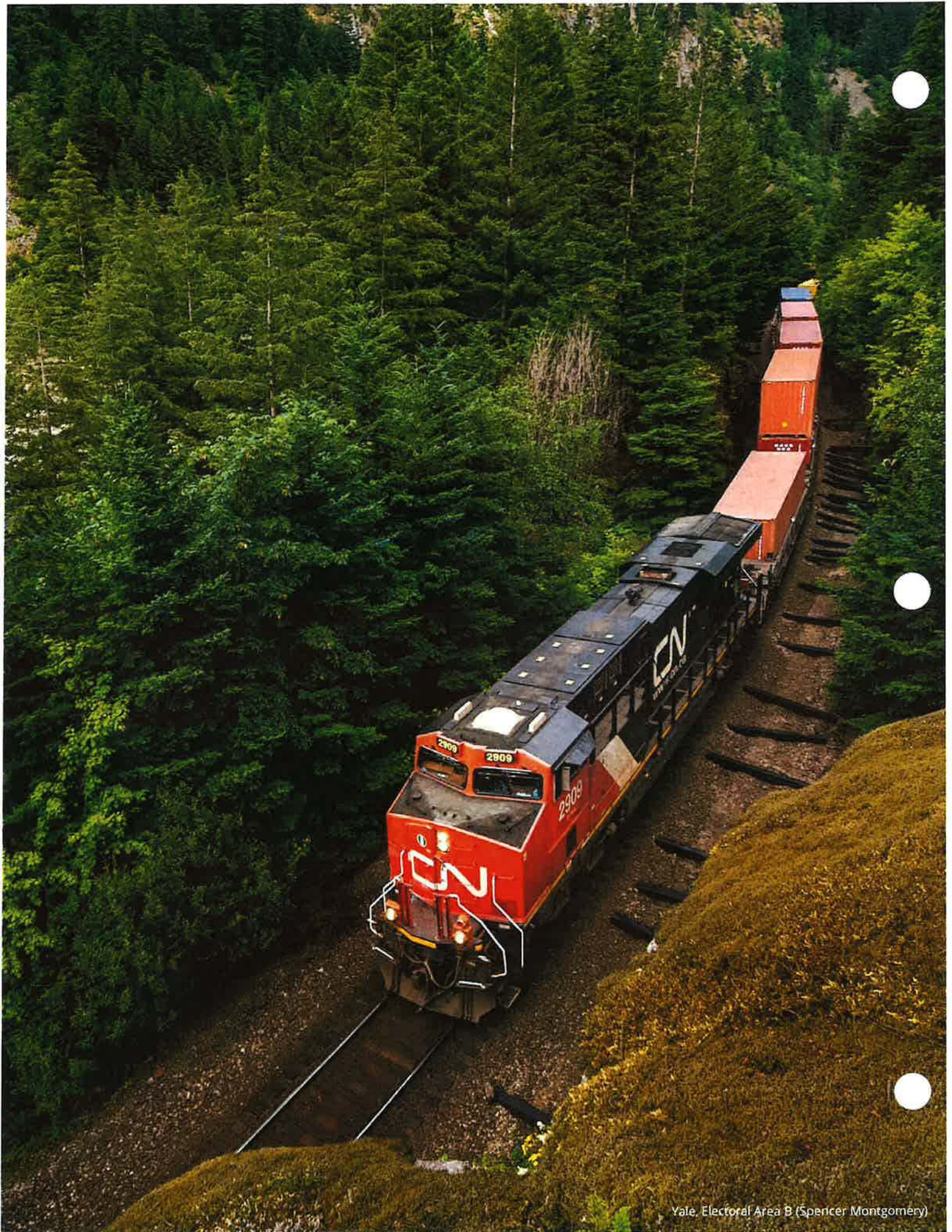
- a. Minimize the impact of major utility corridors such as power lines, pipelines, and railways on communities, agricultural productivity, drinking water, and the cultural and natural health of the environment.
- b. Work with railway companies and the federal government to ensure high safety standards for transport of goods by rail, particularly within community boundaries.



Map 10. Utility Corridors



- | | |
|---|--|
|  FVRD Jurisdictions |  Oil Pipeline |
|  Interprovincial Railway |  Natural Gas Pipeline |
| |  BC Hydro Transmission Line (300-500 Voltage) |



Yale, Electoral Area B (Spencer Montgomery)

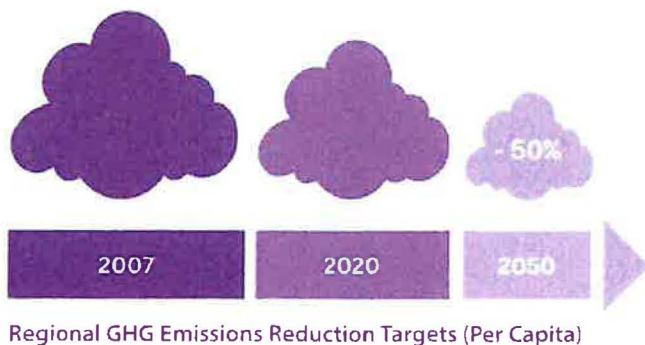
8.0 Climate Change

Goal: *To mitigate the region's impact on global climate change and adapt to the impacts of climate change on the region.*

As signatories to the British Columbia Climate Action Charter, the FVRD, along with its member municipalities, has committed to creating compact and energy efficient communities. The provincial government has also enacted legislation and policies intended to encourage GHG emission reductions. The *Local Government Act* requires that all regional growth strategies include GHG emissions reduction targets and actions.

Through a combination of efforts to reduce the consumption of energy, increase energy efficiency, prioritize clean energy, and reduce GHG emissions, the region will work toward achieving its GHG reduction targets. Taking action will help to reduce energy costs, and contribute to a healthier future for both FVRD residents and our neighbours.

There is also a need for increased climate change resiliency. The region is expected to have drier, warmer summers and wetter winters, with more extreme weather events. In 2021 the region experienced a heat dome with record high temperatures and drought, and then a series of atmospheric rivers in the fall that delivered record rainfall that resulted in significant flooding, land slides, and riverbank erosion. These types of events are expected to be more frequent in the future and something the region will need to address.



8.1 Mitigate the region's impact on global climate change

- Ensure that land use, transportation, and other planning decisions at the regional level consider the impacts of GHG emissions on global climate change.
- Work with municipalities to achieve a region-wide per capita reduction in GHG emissions of 50% by 2050, relative to 2007 levels.
- Update the FVRD's GHG monitoring methodology and update regional GHG reduction targets accordingly.
- Promote development and sustainable management of local, clean, non-combustive, and renewable energy supplies that reduce GHG emissions and protect air quality.
- Encourage senior governments and energy providers to promote energy efficient incentive programs on a region-wide basis.
- Support community design that facilitates active transportation to reduce GHG emissions.
- Encourage use of high energy efficiency building standards to reduce energy costs and GHG emissions in all new developments.
- Encourage individual, municipal, Indigenous community, and region-wide efforts to improve energy and water conservation and efficiency through education and other initiatives.
- Work with the Province to encourage and incentivize best practices in farming that reduce greenhouse gas emissions and protect environmentally sensitive areas, air quality, soil, and water resources.

8.2 Adapt to the impacts of climate change

- a. Ensure that land use, transportation, water supply management, and other planning decisions at the regional level take climate change impacts into account.
- b. Collaborate with member municipalities, Indigenous governments and agencies, and senior governments to develop a regional Climate Change Resiliency Plan.
- c. Research and promote best practices for climate change mitigation and adaptation.
- d. On an annual basis, ensure that provincial infrastructure maintenance scheduling takes climate change into account in order to mitigate the impacts of potential extreme weather events and reduce disaster risk.
- e. Advocate that senior governments improve weather forecasting and risk level communications to better prepare the public, local governments, Indigenous communities, and businesses for extreme weather events.



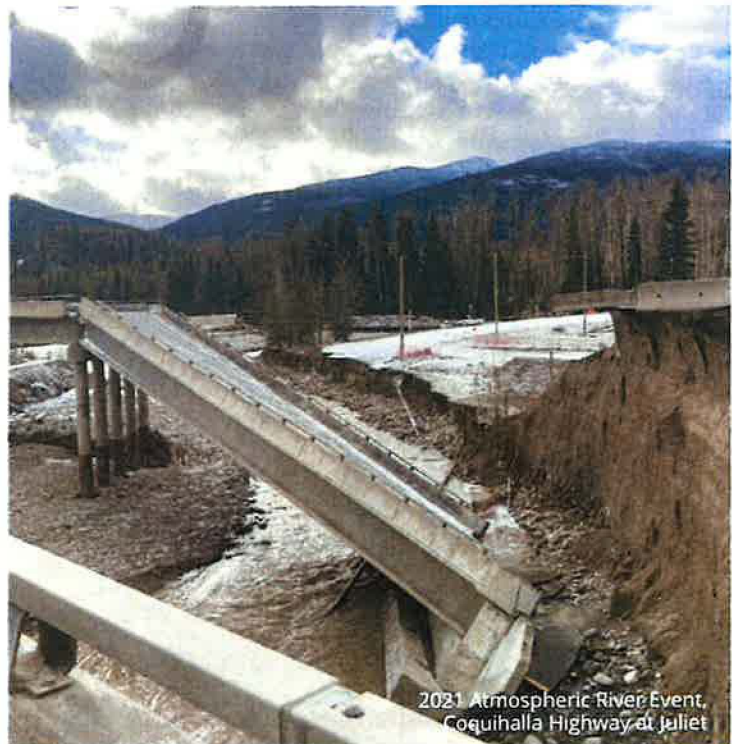
DRIER, WARMER SUMMERS

- Increased drought risk
- Greater frequency and intensity of extreme heat events
- Disrupts flowering and pollination
- Increased pest and disease pressures



WETTER WINTERS

- Increased freshet flood risk
- Increased precipitation and extreme events
- Erosion and nutrient leeching
- Crop damage



2021 Atmospheric River Event, Coquihalla Highway at Juliet

Implementation

Regional Context Statements

Section 446 of the *Local Government Act* requires that within a region that has adopted a regional growth strategy, all municipal official community plans (OCPs) must include a Regional Context Statement. The Regional Context Statement sets out the relationship between the RGS and the OCP and how they will be made consistent over time.

Once the RGS has been formally accepted by all affected local governments, each member municipality has two years to adopt a Regional Context Statement in their OCP. The Regional District Board in turn must accept the Regional Context Statements. Electoral area planning and zoning must be consistent with RGS policies.

In order to simplify the process and apply a level of consistency across the region, Regional Context Statements shall, at a minimum, include:

- A written description of how the OCP relates to each of the goals and objectives of the RGS; and
- Where there are inconsistencies, a description of how the OCP will become consistent over time.

Once the RGS has been adopted, all bylaws adopted by the regional district must be consistent with the RGS. However, as set out in Section 445 of the *Local Government Act*, the RGS does not commit or authorize a regional district to proceed with any project or action specified within the plan.

Implementation Agreements

Implementation Agreements can be used to implement aspects of an RGS. An IA is a partnership agreement between a regional district and other levels of government, their agencies, Indigenous governments, or other bodies which spell out the details of how certain aspects of a regional growth strategy will be carried out. The primary focus, however, is on provincial ministries and agencies.

According to the Province, such agreements are an important tool designed to promote coordinated local/provincial actions. These agreements are the primary means for the regional district and the provincial government to commit to actions on implementation of the RGS.

Monitoring and Evaluation

Under British Columbia's *Local Government Act*, every regional district with a regional growth strategy is required to review and monitor the RGS periodically. The FVRD will work on a continuing basis with local municipalities and provincial agencies to achieve the objectives outlined in the RGS and to track progress.

Although the RGS takes a long-term perspective, it is important that the RGS is periodically reviewed and updated to ensure that the policies remain relevant. The FVRD will take the following actions to monitor progress on a region-wide level:

- Work with municipalities to develop Regional Context Statements for official community plans;
- Prepare an annual monitoring report to evaluate progress in achieving the goals outlined in the RGS;
- Maintain a GIS database with up-to-date spatial information; and
- Consider a review of the RGS every five years.

Figure 2. Relationship Between the Regional Growth Strategy and Official Community Plans



Amendment Process

Section 437 of the *Local Government Act* allows for both major and minor amendments to the Regional Growth Strategy. In both cases, the process to initiate amendments to the Regional Growth Strategy is by resolution of the regional board. Municipalities are encouraged to discuss the reasons for an amendment with the regional district prior to submitting a request for amendment.

Should a local government wish to request an amendment, it must be forwarded to the regional board as a resolution of Council. Submissions must be accompanied by a report explaining the planning justification and rationale for the amendment request. It is encouraged, but not mandatory, that referral requests be given after first reading by the municipal council.

All proposed amendments to the Regional Growth Strategy will be forwarded to the Board. Where the Board resolves to proceed with a request, the Board will:

- Agree whether the request should be treated as a minor or major amendment.
- Provide written notice to affected local governments of the proposed minor amendment along with any other relevant supporting documentation and the date, time, and place of the first reading.
- Provide a minimum of 30 days for affected local governments and agencies to respond.
- Consider comments provided by affected local governments prior to giving first reading to the proposed amendment bylaw.
- Consider the need for a public hearing.

Criteria and Procedures for Major Amendments

An amendment to the RGS is considered major if the proposed change includes one or more of the following:

- The addition or deletion of Regional Growth Strategy goals or policies;
- Amendments to the minor amendment process as outlined below;
- Proposed changes to Regional Growth Boundaries pertaining to land that is not adjacent to the existing Regional Growth Boundary; or
- Other criteria as specified in Section 437 of the *Local Government Act*.

Major amendments to the RGS must be accepted by all affected local governments in accordance with the provisions of Section 436 of the *Local Government Act* and must follow the same process that is required to adopt the RGS.

Criteria and Procedures for Minor Amendments

Minor amendments may be made to the Regional Growth Strategy provided they fit one or more of the following criteria:

- Amendments to population or employment projections, tables, figures, grammar, or numbering that do not alter the intent of the RGS;
- Text and map amendments required to correct errors or to update information;
- Amendments resulting from a full official community plan process;
- Changes to evaluation and monitoring of RGS goals; or
- Changes to lands adjacent to the existing Regional Growth Boundary.

Minor Amendment Process

The procedure for minor amendments is as follows:

Public Hearing Required

If at first reading, the amending bylaw receives an affirmative vote by the Board, and it is determined that a public hearing is necessary, a public hearing will take place after the second reading. In consideration of public comments, the bylaw may then be adopted in accordance with the procedures that apply to the adoption of a regional growth strategy bylaw under Section 207 and the Board's procedure bylaw.

No Public Hearing Required

If at first reading, the amending bylaw receives, by simple majority, an affirmative vote of the Board and it is determined that no public hearing is necessary, the bylaw may be adopted in accordance with the procedures that apply to the adoption of a regional growth strategy bylaw under Section 207 of the *Local Government Act* and the Board's procedure bylaw.

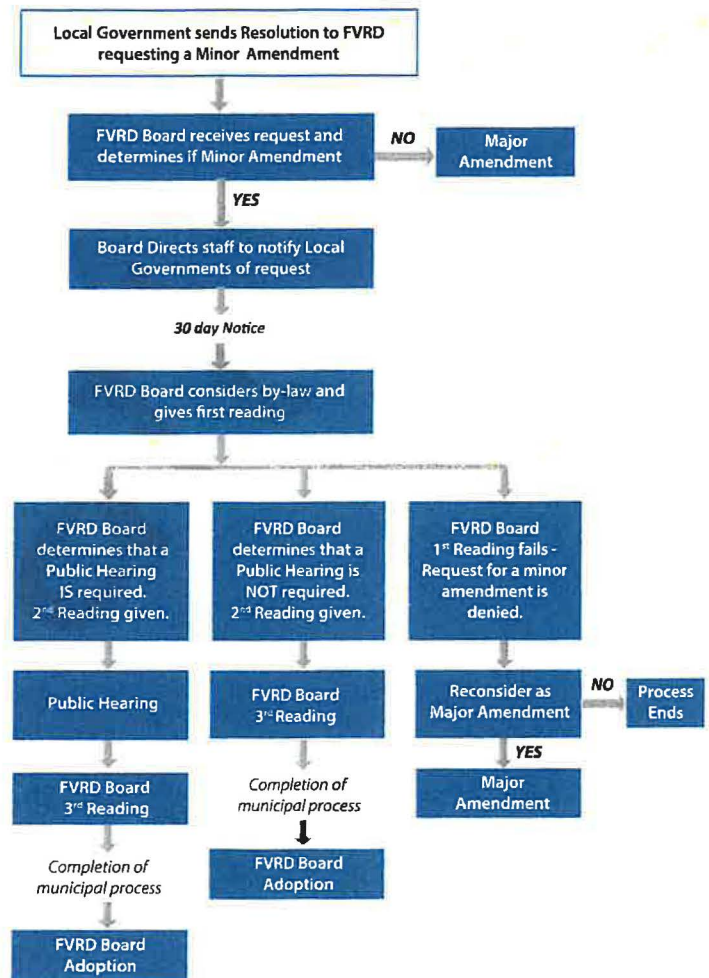
In either of the above two cases, final adoption of the minor amendment on the part of the Board will take place only after the municipal council has given final approval to the municipal application or initiative for which the amendment is requested. This is to ensure that the reason for the RGS amendment is first upheld at the municipal level.

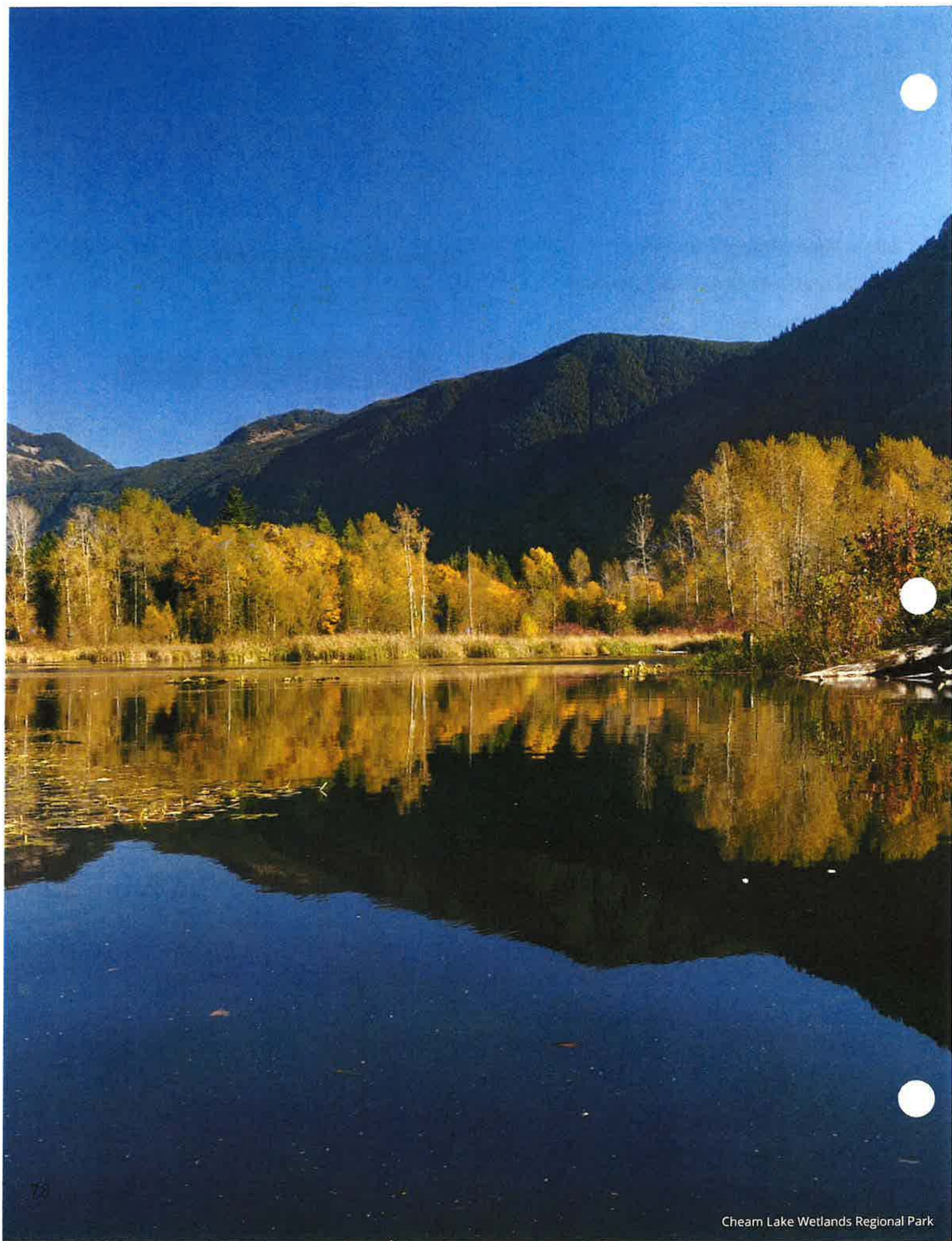
If at first reading, the amending bylaw does not receive an affirmative vote of the Board, the bylaw may only be adopted in accordance with the major amendment procedure established by Section 432 in which case acceptance by affected local governments is required. *(Please refer back to Criteria and Procedures for Major Amendments)*

Final Adoption

Where an RGS amendment is tied to a municipal process, the RGS amendment bylaw will not be adopted until the municipal process is complete.

Figure 3. RGS Minor Amendment Process





Fraser Valley Regional District

1-45950 Cheam Avenue, Chilliwack B.C. V2P1N6 | 604. 702. 5000 | info@fvrd.ca | www.fvrd.ca



February 13th, 2023

Mayor and Council
Village of Harrison Hot Springs
495 Hot Springs Road, P.O. Box 160
Harrison Hot Springs, BC V0M 1K0

RE: 2023 B.C. Chamber of Commerce Week

Dear Mayor and Council,

The Harrison Agassiz Chamber of Commerce is a critical voice in our community. We have more than 87 member businesses from this community and surrounding area, and we advocate on their behalf for a business environment that is inclusive, competitive and sets them up to succeed.

As a local organization, with staff & volunteers who live here, we are attuned to the needs and priorities of our members and the citizens who call Harrison Hot Springs home. In addition to our advocacy work, we develop and deliver innovative programs and initiatives to support business, lead charitable works that contribute to social well-being, and convene our community when needed to discuss the issues and challenges we all face with a view to identifying appropriate solutions. In addition, we often serve as a positive economic development voice for Harrison Hot Springs and the District of Kent-Agassiz and champion the benefits of investing in our community. I am very proud of the work we do and the contributions we make to benefit our amazing community.

We are also a proud member of the BC Chamber of Commerce, that represents 100 member chambers of commerce and boards of trade, and 36,000 businesses of every size and from every sector and region of the province - the largest breadth and depth of any business organization in the province – bar none. We are proud that our local voice is amplified through the established and powerful voice of our provincial association.

This week, February 13 to 17 is B.C. Chamber of Commerce Week, and an opportunity to celebrate the role our organization plays in our community. I want to draw your attention to an Opinion Editorial piece written by Fiona Famulak, President and CEO of the BC Chamber of Commerce, (appended/attached) that highlights the role organizations like ours play in communities across the province. I hope you'll take a moment to read her piece.

If you have questions about our local chamber of commerce, or the BC Chamber of Commerce, I'd be pleased to meet with you at your earliest convenience.

Regards,



Rob Hole
President
Harrison Agassiz Chamber of Commerce
P: 780-826-0083 / E: rob@octopuscreative.ca

B.C.'s chambers of commerce and boards of trade are integral to our communities' health and prosperity

February 13 to 17 is Chamber of Commerce Week in British Columbia. It's an opportune time to recognize and celebrate the meaningful work undertaken by the chambers of commerce and boards of trade in communities across the province.

Whether it's advocating to local, provincial or federal governments for changes to public policy, developing innovative programs and initiatives to support business, or leading charitable works that contribute to social well-being, local chambers of commerce and boards of trade are the trusted "boots on the ground" that understand the unique needs of their communities.

They are convenors, collaborators and catalysts for positive change and are integral to creating sustainable, healthy communities.

As the largest and most broadly-based business association in the province, the BC Chamber of Commerce represents 100 local member chambers of commerce and boards of trade and, through them, 36,000 businesses of every size and from every region in the province. We champion the collective voice of our members to create an environment in which B.C. businesses prosper, families thrive and our communities flourish.

British Columbia is an expensive place to do business. And so, our immediate focus is to help create an environment where businesses succeed. However, our collective purpose is much greater and focuses on the symbiotic relationship between successful businesses and healthy communities - one cannot exist without the other.

And so, contrary to what many people may assume, we advocate also on important societal issues that exist in all our communities.

For example, there is a critical dearth of affordable housing in communities across the province that makes it impossible to attract and retain workers. Layer on the lack of inter-community transportation and dependable childcare both of which prohibit parents from returning to/entering the workforce and it's no wonder our businesses, especially in rural communities, struggle to attract and retain the workers they need.

Of equal concern are the mental health and addictions challenges seen in nearly every community. Those challenges affect our personal and professional lives equally, and too many of us have experienced their impact on our family members, our friends and our co-workers. We cannot expect to have a productive economy, without a work force that feels supported. Given the breadth and depth of our collective reach, our members know we must play a role in finding lasting solutions to these problems.

Finally, while B.C. has made gains on Indigenous reconciliation and participation in the economy, much more needs to be done. Across the province, many of our members are undertaking the work to listen, to learn from and to collaborate with their Indigenous partners. We know, indigenous economic reconciliation is inextricably linked to deeper, lasting reconciliation.

With predictions of a recession in 2023, the need to address some of our greatest challenges with increased urgency, social and economic, is clear.

The BC Chamber of Commerce, along with its network of local chambers of commerce and boards of trade advocate on all issues that will help to create an environment where businesses prosper, families thrive and our communities flourish.

I encourage you to check out your local chamber of commerce or board of trade to learn about the integral role it plays to your community's health and prosperity. I am proud of the work they undertake and you should be too.

*Fiona Famulak, President and CEO
BC Chamber of Commerce*



OMBUDSPERSON
BRITISH COLUMBIA

February 14, 2023

Delivered via email

Mayor Ed Wood
Village of Harrison Hot Springs
495 Hot Springs Road
Harrison Hot Springs BC V0M 1K0

Dear Mayor Wood:

With many new municipal mayors and council members elected and now sworn in across the province, I wanted to reach out and let you know how the Office of the Ombudsperson can work with, and help, local governments in British Columbia.

If you are continuing in your elected position, thank you for your service to British Columbians. And if you are newly elected, welcome to your very important role.

My office takes complaints from the public about all of the local governments in BC. We are an oversight body, one of the independent offices of the Legislature, and our mandate is to be BC's independent voice for fairness and accountability of the public sector. When we receive people's concerns about public services, we conduct impartial investigations and address the fairness problems that we find. For local governments, that means you may hear from us when we have received a complaint about your municipality and are investigating to determine whether the standard of fair and reasonable service set out in the *Ombudsperson Act* has been met. Where fairness issues are identified, we can consult with you to find a way to address the issues in order to ensure fairness moving forward.

We are also available to help. Our [Public Authority Consultation and Training team](#) can assist you with any questions about fairness you may have. A number of [useful resources](#) are also available on our website, including:

- A [Complaint Handling Guide](#), which contains a [Model Complaints Policy](#);
- Our Quick Tip resource [On Complaint Handling for Local Governments](#);
- [Bylaw Enforcement: Best Practices Guide for Local Governments](#);
- [Open Meetings: Best Practices Guide for Local Governments](#);
- Our 1-hour online [Fairness 101 course](#); and
- Educational [webinars](#).

Our office is also offering a [webinar](#) for public bodies on our recently released [Fairness by Design guide](#). In the webinar, we'll outline the fairness standards found in the guide and how they can be used to ensure your programs are delivered fairly. We will also answer your questions. Webinar details are below:

- **Thursday, March 16, 2023 from 10:00 a.m. – 11:00 am**
- [Register here](#)

Please share this invitation with anyone in your organization who may be interested.

Once again, thank you for the important local government role you took on. We look forward to working with you.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Jay Chalke', written in a cursive style.

Jay Chalke
Ombudsperson
Province of British Columbia



VILLAGE OF HARRISON HOT SPRINGS

REPORT TO COUNCIL

TO: Mayor and Council **DATE:** January 30, 2023
FROM: Rhonda Schell **FILE:** 5480-01/06/3900-01
Community Services Manager/
Deputy Corporate Officer
SUBJECT: Highway and Traffic Amendment Bylaw

ISSUE:

To provide three readings to Highway and Traffic Amendment Bylaw No. 1185, 2023.

DISCUSSION:

Amendments have been introduced in the Highway and Traffic bylaw to provide provisions for pay parking rate adjustments and expansion of the pay parking program to include Lillooet Avenue west of Hot Springs Road. Accordingly, a draft of the amendment bylaw is attached for consideration.

RECOMMENDATION:

THAT Highway and Traffic Amendment Bylaw No. 1185, 2023 be given first, second, and third readings.

Respectfully submitted:

Rhonda Schell

Rhonda Schell
Community Services Manager

REVIEWED BY:

Scott Schultz

Scott Schultz
Finance Manager



**VILLAGE OF HARRISON HOT SPRINGS
BYLAW NO. 1185, 2023**

A bylaw to amend Highway and Traffic Bylaw No. 974, 2011

WHEREAS the Village of Harrison Hot Springs has deemed it advisable to amend Highway and Traffic Bylaw No. 974, 2011 to 2011 to reflect an increase in pay parking fees under the pay parking program;

NOW THEREFORE in open meeting assembled, the Mayor and Council of the Village of Harrison Hot Springs enacts as follows:

1. This Bylaw may be cited for all purposes as Village of Harrison Hot Springs "Highway and Traffic Amendment Bylaw No. 1185, 2023".
2. Highway and Traffic Bylaw No. 974, 2011 hereby amended by deleting Schedule "A" in its entirety and substituting it with Schedule "A" attached hereto and forming part of this bylaw.

READINGS AND ADOPTION

READ A FIRST TIME THIS DAY OF FEBRUARY, 2023

READ A SECOND THIS DAY OF FEBRUARY, 2023

READ A THIRD TIME THIS DAY OF FEBRUARY, 2023

ADOPTED THIS DAY OF , 2023

Ed Wood
Mayor

Rhonda Schell
Deputy Corporate Officer

Highway and Traffic Amendment Bylaw No. 1185

Schedule "A"

The following highways are designated as pay parking areas for the purposes of pay parking and will be subject to the following pay parking fees, and as amended from time to time:

- Esplanade Avenue
- St. Alice Street
- Hot Springs Road north of Lillooet Avenue
- Lillooet Avenue west of Hot Springs Road
- Maple Street north of Lillooet Avenue
- Chehalis Street
- Spruce Street

Zone 1: Max. 4 Hour Parking **(excluding stalls with EV charging)**

Parking Rates:

Hour 1 – \$2.00
Hour 2 – \$3.00
Hour 3 – \$4.00
Hour 4 – \$5.00

(Total \$14.00 for 4 hours)

Locations:

St. Alice Street
Hot Springs Road north of Lillooet Avenue
Esplanade Avenue west of Hot Springs Road
Lillooet Avenue west of Hot Springs Road

Zone 2: Hourly and Daily Parking **(excluding stalls with EV charging)**

Parking Rates:

\$5.00 per hour or \$20.00 per day

Locations:

Esplanade Avenue

Streets between Esplanade Avenue and
Lillooet Avenue including:

- Maple Street
- Chehalis Street
- Spruce Street

Electric Vehicle Charging Stalls on Public Property: Max. 4 Hour Parking

Parking Rates:

May 15 – September 15

\$7.00 per hour

September 16 – May 14

\$2.00 per hour



VILLAGE OF HARRISON HOT SPRINGS

REPORT TO COUNCIL

TO: Mayor and Council **DATE:** January 30, 2023
FROM: Rhonda Schell **FILE:** 3900-01
Community Services Manager/
Deputy Corporate Officer

SUBJECT: Boat Launch Facility and Parking Lot Regulation Bylaw No.1075, 2015
Schedule "A" Fees

ISSUE:

To provide three readings to Boat Launch Facility and Parking Lot Regulation
Amendment Bylaw No. 1186, 2023.

BACKGROUND:

Amendments have been introduced in the Boat Launch Facility and Parking Lot
Regulation bylaw to harmonize the day parking rate with the pay parking program day
rate. Accordingly, a draft of the amendment bylaw is attached for consideration.

RECOMMENDATION:

THAT Boat Launch Facility and Parking Lot Regulation Amendment Bylaw 1186,
2023 be given first, second and third reading.

Respectfully submitted:

Rhonda Schell

Rhonda Schell
Community Services Manager

REVIEWED BY:

Scott Schultz

Scott Schultz
Finance Manager



VILLAGE OF HARRISON HOT SPRINGS

BYLAW NO. 1186, 2023

A bylaw to amend Boat Launch Facility and Parking Lot Regulation Bylaw No. 1075, 2015

WHEREAS the Village of Harrison Hot Springs has deemed it advisable to amend Boat Launch Facility and Parking Lot Regulation Bylaw No. 1075, 2015;

NOW THEREFORE in open meeting assembled, the Mayor and Council of the Village of Harrison Hot Springs enacts as follows:

1. CITATION

This Bylaw may be cited for all purposes as the "Village of Harrison Hot Springs Boat Launch Facility and Parking Lot Regulation Amendment Bylaw No. 1186, 2023".

2. Boat Launch Facility and Parking Lot Regulation Bylaw No. 1075, 2015, Schedule "A" is hereby amended as follows:

PASSES	AMOUNT	*KHSAR Surcharge
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Day Pass• Season Pass• Fleet Pass	<ul style="list-style-type: none">\$ 23.00 (tax included)\$140.00 (tax included)\$480.00 (tax included)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">\$ 2.00\$10.00\$20.00
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Parking Pass per one day• Additional Parking Pass	<ul style="list-style-type: none">\$ 20.00 (tax included)\$ 20.00 (tax included)	
<i>*This surcharge contributes to the Kent Harrison Search and Rescue to provide search and rescue services to the community.</i>		

READ A FIRST TIME THIS DAY OF FEBRUARY, 2023

READ A SECOND TIME THIS DAY OF FEBRUARY, 2023

READ A THIRD TIME THIS DAY OF FEBRUARY, 2023

ADOPTED THIS DAY OF FEBRUARY, 2023

Ed Wood
Mayor

Rhonda Schell
Deputy Corporate Officer