

VILLAGE OF PORT ALICE
COUNCIL MEETING AGENDA
TO BE HELD WEDNESDAY MARCH 25, 2026 at 6:00 pm
AT COUNCIL CHAMBERS, VILLAGE OFFICE



(1) CALL TO ORDER

We are privileged to acknowledge that this meeting is being held on the traditional territory of the Quatsino First Nations.

(2) ADOPTION OF AGENDA:

THAT the Agenda for the Meeting of the Village of Port Alice for March 25, 2026, be approved; AND THAT all delegations, reports, correspondence, and other information set to the agenda be received.

(3) DELEGATIONS:

a.) Port Alice Gas Update – rescheduled from March 11
February 2026, Delegation from David Dyck, Port Alice Gas

(4) MINUTES:

Pg 3-4 a.) *THAT the Minutes from the Regular Meeting Minutes of March 11, 2026, be approved.*

(5) COMMUNICATIONS:

Pg 5-8 a.) Request to Co-sign Letter of Support
March 15, 2026, Letter from MLA Anna Kindy

(6) REPORTS:

Pg 7 a.) Economic Development Update
March 16, 2026, Report from Ryan Nicholson, Ec Dev Officer

b.) CAO Update

Pg 9 March 19, 2026, Report from Bonnie Danyk, CAO/CFO

(7) BYLAWS:

Pg 11--16 a.) Bylaw 702 - Bylaw for the Financial Plan for 2026-2030

Recommendation

THAT Bylaw 702 – Bylaw for Financial Plan for 2026-2030 be given fourth reading and adoption

(8) QUESTION PERIOD:

(9) ADJOURNMENT:

THAT the meeting of the Village of Port Alice Council held March 25, 2026, be adjourned

INFORMATION ITEMS:

a.) March 18th, 2026, Letter from Town of View Royal, Re Judicial Review Coalition Update – Provincial Housing Legislation (Bills 44, 27, 13, 15, and M216)

VILLAGE OF PORT ALICE COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
WEDNESDAY, MARCH 11, 2026
AT COUNCIL CHAMBERS, VILLAGE OFFICE



Present Mayor Kevin Cameron
Councillor Holly Aldis
Councillor Sean Watson
Councillor David Stewart
Councillor Russell Murray

Absent

Staff Bonnie Danyk, CAO/CFO
Tanya Spafford, Admin Assistant
Ryan Nicholson

Call to order 6:00pm

22/26
Adoption of
Agenda

ADOPTION OF AGENDA:

Moved, Seconded and CARRIED

THAT the Agenda for the Meeting of the Village of Port Alice for March 11, 2026, be approved, AND THAT all delegations, reports, correspondence, and other information set to the agenda be received with the deletion of the delegation and the addition of the Audit Planning Report under COMMUNICATIONS:

23/26
Minutes of
February 25,
2026 meeting

MINUTES:

Moved, Seconded and CARRIED

THAT the Minutes from the Council Meeting of February 25, 2026, be approved.

COMMUNICATIONS:

2025 Audit Planning Report

24/26 Audit
Planning
Report

March 2026 Report from Peiter de la Rey, Chan, Nowosad & Boates

Moved, Seconded and CARRIED

THAT the 2025 Audit Planning Report be approved.

REPORTS:

Vancouver Island Regional Board Meeting Report

Verbal Report from Councillor Murray

- Appointed to Chair the VIRL Finance Committee
- Eileen Gillette is the new CEO of VIRL
- New library opened in Haida Gwaii

BYLAWS:

Bylaw 701 – Bylaw to amend Rates & Fees Bylaw 695-2025

25/26 Bylaw
701 – Amend
Fees &
Charges 695

Moved, Seconded and CARRIED

THAT the Village of Port Alice Bylaw 701 – Bylaw to amend Rates & Fees Bylaw 694-2025 be given fourth reading and adoption

QUESTION PERIOD:

ADJOURNMENT: 6:10 pm

Moved, Seconded and CARRIED

THAT the Regular meeting of the Village of Port Alice held March 11, 2026, be adjourned at 6:10 pm.

I hereby certify the preceding to be a true and correct account of the Regular meeting of the Village of Port Alice Council held March 11, 2026.

26/26
Adjournment

Mayor

Chief Administrative Officer

treasurer@portalice.ca

From: Kindy.MLA, Anna <Anna.Kindy.MLA@leg.bc.ca>
Sent: Sunday, March 15, 2026 4:29 PM
To: mayor@portalice.ca
Cc: Despins, Susan
Subject: Request to Co-Sign Letter of Support
Attachments: DFOSALMONALLOCATIONLETTERMAR26.pdf

Flag Status: Flagged

Dear Mayor Cameron,

I hope you are well. On MLA Kindy's behalf, I am writing to request your consideration in co-signing the attached letter outlining concerns regarding the proposed Salmon Allocation Policy and its impacts on North Island communities. The letter is included for your review and context.

If you are comfortable providing your support, please let us know your preferred method for submitting your signature. We are happy to accept either a digital signature image sent by email or a wet signature, which can be signed, scanned, and returned electronically. Once we receive your decision, we will format the letter accordingly and send it back to you.

Thank you for taking the time to consider this request. Please don't hesitate to reach out to our office if you have any questions or would like additional information.

Kind regards,

Candice Lowery



Susan Despins/Charlotte Roth
Constituency Advisors
anna.kindy.mla@leg.bc.ca

MLA Anna Kindy
908 Island Highway
Campbell River, BC V9W 2C3
(778)-902-8544



March 15, 2026

The Honorable Joanne Thompson
Minister of Fisheries, Oceans and the Canadian Coast Guard
200 Kent Street
Station 15N100
Ottawa ON K1A 0E6
Email: DFO.Minister-Ministre.MPO@dfo-mpo.gc.ca

Subject: Concerns Regarding the Proposed Salmon Allocation Policy and the Resulting Economic Impacts on North Island Communities

Minister Thompson,

We are writing on behalf of our North Island communities to express significant concern regarding the proposed changes to the Salmon Allocation Policy currently under review by Fisheries and Oceans Canada. These changes come at a time when our coastal communities are already facing substantial economic pressures, and any reduction or instability in public salmon fishing opportunities will have substantial and lasting consequences for the region.

The recreational fishery is a cornerstone of the North Island economy. It supports local jobs, generates business investment, and sustains a diverse network of service providers including marinas, guides, lodges, tackle shops, campgrounds, hotels, restaurants, and a broad chain of suppliers that rely on a stable and predictable fishing season. The economic value generated by the recreational fishery is driven not by the volume of salmon harvested but by the duration and predictability of fishing opportunities as documented in recent sector analyses. Recreational fisheries produce higher economic value per salmon harvested than commercial harvest and deliver benefits across a much wider cross section of British Columbia businesses and workers.

Many families plan their fishing experiences a year in advance, investing in travel, accommodation, equipment, and provisions. These trips are more than recreational. They are deeply rooted in cultural practice, food gathering, and the economic and emotional rhythms of life for coastal residents and visitors from across Canada. Sudden closures caused by fixed harvest caps or quota-based systems would undermine this entire economic ecosystem, discouraging future visitation and diminishing community stability.

The extensive review conducted by the Pacific Marine Conservation Caucus highlights that any new Salmon Allocation Policy must uphold conservation first, incorporate accurate monitoring of total mortality, and ensure that salmon are managed in the broader public interest. Their findings also caution that allocation decisions must reflect stock selectivity, mortality accounting, and the need for clear and consistent monitoring to support both conservation and fair access across all sectors.

North Island communities fully support conservation-based management. Healthy salmon stocks are foundational to Indigenous rights, to the environment, and to the long-term viability of every sector that depends on them. However, conservation objectives can and must coexist with stable, predictable access for public fisheries. The recreational fishery has proven its capacity to operate within sustainable limits through preseason planning, low impact gear, and selective fishing methods that inherently reduce incidental mortality. These characteristics distinguish it from high volume commercial harvest models and demonstrate that recreational opportunities can be maintained without compromising conservation outcomes.

For our region, the risks posed by the proposed removal of the common property principle and the introduction of rigid allocation frameworks extend far beyond the docks. Loss of predictability in public fishing access would destabilize small businesses, reduce tourism, undermine long term investment in coastal infrastructure, and threaten thousands of jobs that depend on a dependable fishing season. Such changes would further erode the already fragile economic fabric of the North Island.

We respectfully ask that you consider the following:

- Maintaining the principle that salmon are a public resource managed for the benefit of all Canadians
- Ensuring that recreational fisheries are not placed at risk by fixed harvest caps or rigid allocation shares that do not align with the structure and economic model of the public fishery
- Prioritizing transparent and science-based monitoring of total mortalities across all sectors
- Supporting management approaches that safeguard both conservation and the economic health of communities that rely on predictable public access
- Recognizing the significant socioeconomic importance of the recreational fishery in rural and coastal British Columbia and especially in communities throughout the North Island riding

North Island communities are resilient, but they cannot withstand further destabilization of the public fishery. We urge the Department to adopt a balanced approach that respects Indigenous rights, protects salmon for future generations, and ensures that coastal communities retain the economic lifeline that the recreational fishery provides.

Thank you for your attention to this critical matter. We would welcome the opportunity to discuss the specific impacts to our region in more detail.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read 'AK' or similar initials.

Anna Kindy
MLA for North Island
908 Island Highway
Campbell River, BC V9W 2C3



VILLAGE OF PORT ALICE REPORT TO COUNCIL

To: Mayor & Council
From: Ryan Nicholson, Economic Development Officer
Date: March 16, 2026
Subject: Economic Development Update

Google analytics are showing continued growth of people searching for information about Link River campground. Bookings are up 25% from 2025 and 70% from 2024. Based on these early reports, we should expect record breaking visitor numbers to the campground and village again this year.

Visible danger trees at Link River have been fallen making the campground significantly safer for visitors this year. Great efforts were taken to limit damage to the remaining trees and property in general. There was a much higher number of danger trees identified than anticipated. This has resulted in much more debris clean-up needed than originally thought. Our Public Works foreman has been fantastic with providing both the equipment and personnel needed for us to complete the work so far. Now that the logs have been removed, the remaining debris clean-up will require multiple, additional days of personnel and equipment on site to complete, that Mr. Yunker could not have been prepared for. I am asking Mayor and Council to approve additional Public Works staffing to finish danger tree debris clean-up, along with the regular spring maintenance at Link River Campground.

Preliminary plans for the new pavilion and washroom for Lions Park have been received. Once engineered drawings are completed and building permit issued, the village will need to remove the existing pavilion structure. The village will also be responsible for completing a gravel pad for the washroom, with a sewer line connected to the lift station ready for the washroom building. Colour selections also need to be made for the steel roofs and walls. I have spoken with Mr. Yunker and Public Works is able to complete the pad and sewer connection.

- Lets Boat nearly ready to go live for moorage reservations
- Plans submitted to BC Hydro for service upgrade needed to provide power to docks
- Finalizing quotes for possible dock expansion at marina
- BCWS Fuel Management Prescription ready for BC Bid once funding confirmed
- 2026 Business Directory updated with QR code option at locations with service

Respectfully submitted:

Ryan Nicholson
Economic Development Officer



REPORT TO COUNCIL

To: Mayor & Council
From: Chief Administrative Officer
Date: March 2026
Subject: Update Report

Administration

Requests for Proposals were issued for Marina Manager, Gardener and Link River Attendant. The deadline for submissions is March 27, 2026.

Harold Engineering was here last month to do a condition assessment on the Quatsino Chalet Annex. The report is expected next month.

Finance / Grants

The Public Budget meeting was held on March 24, 2026. Chan Nowosad Boates will be here the week of March 30, 2026 to do the site visit for the annual audit.

The plan for 2026 is to finish up projects. This will include electrical work at the Marina, bridge rehabilitation by the trailer park, the Arena feasibility study, replacing the pavilion at Lion's Park and building a washroom at the Park. We will also be replacing more streetlights.

Tourism

We are in the process of implementing a moorage reservation system for the Marina this year. The last two years have been very busy, and the Marina was full several times.

Link River reservations are off to a great start. Campground maintenance is starting to get it ready for the season. We have extended the paid season to May 1 to September 30.

Recreation

Community Centre programs are seeing an increase in attendance. Also there has been an increase in interest in using the CC for artisan classes.

We are planning on refinishing the floors this year and doing some painting.

Public Works

One of our casual employees has taken the Transfer Station Attendant position. A posting for a new casual employee was issued on March 19, 2026.

Respectfully submitted,

Bonnie Danyk, CAO / CFO

**VILLAGE OF PORT ALICE
BYLAW NO. 702, 2026**

BEING A BYLAW FOR THE VILLAGE OF PORT ALICE FINANCIAL PLAN 2026 - 2030

WHEREAS, under section 165 of the Community Charter the Council of the Village of Port Alice is required to adopt a financial plan before the annual property tax bylaw is adopted.

NOW THEREFORE, the Council of the Village of Port Alice, in open meeting assembled, enacts as follows:

1. Schedule "A" attached to and forming part of this Bylaw is the Village of Port Alice Financial Plan 2026 – 2030, Revenues and Expenditures.
2. Schedule "B" attached to and forming part of this Bylaw is the Village of Port Alice Financial Plan 2026 – 2030 Statement of Objectives and Policies.
3. This Bylaw may be cited for all purposes as the "Village of Port Alice Financial Plan 2026 - 2030 Bylaw No.702, 2026".

READ A FIRST AND SECOND TIME THIS 11th DAY OF MARCH 2026.

PUBLIC CONSULTATION HELD MARCH 24, 2026.

READ A THIRD TIME THIS 25th DAY OF MARCH 2026.

RECONSIDERED, AND ADOPTED THIS 8th DAY OF APRIL 2026.

Mayor

Chief Administrative Officer

Certified a true copy of Bylaw No.702, as adopted by Council on the 8th day of April 2026.

Chief Administrative Officer

**VILLAGE OF PORT ALICE
BYLAW NO. 702, 2026**

**VILLAGE OF PORT ALICE FINANCIAL PLAN 2026 - 2030
Bylaw No. 702, 2026 - Schedule 'A' REVENUES**

REVENUES	2026	2027	2028	2029	2030
Property Taxes	\$850,000	\$903,760	\$931,053	\$959,164	\$988,119
Utility/Grant in Place of Taxes	\$21,500	\$22,145	\$22,809	\$23,494	\$24,198
Total Taxation	\$871,500	\$925,905	\$953,862	\$982,658	\$1,012,317
Fees and Charges					
Garbage Rates/Penalties	\$103,000	\$106,090	\$109,273	\$112,551	\$115,927
Recreation Supplies and Services	\$16,500	\$16,995	\$17,505	\$18,030	\$18,571
Recreation Facilities Rentals	\$19,000	\$19,570	\$20,157	\$20,762	\$21,385
Licenses/Permits	\$9,000	\$9,270	\$9,548	\$9,835	\$10,130
Water Utility	\$71,000	\$73,130	\$75,324	\$77,584	\$79,911
Sewer Utility	\$154,500	\$159,135	\$163,909	\$168,826	\$173,891
Other Revenue	\$281,000	\$256,370	\$264,061	\$271,983	\$280,142
Total Fees and Charges	\$654,000	\$640,560	\$659,777	\$679,571	\$699,957
Other Revenue					
Federal Govt Grants	\$1,000	\$1,000	\$1,000	\$1,000	\$1,000
Provincial Govt Grants -	\$584,000	\$516,180	\$528,725	\$541,646	\$554,958
Regional District of Mt. Waddington	\$5,000	\$5,000	\$5,000	\$5,000	\$5,000
Total Other Revenue	\$590,000	\$522,180	\$534,725	\$547,646	\$560,958
Appropriation from Reserve					
Appropriation from Deferred Revenue	\$149,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Appropriation from Surplus	\$27,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$15,000
Appropriation from Deferred Revenue:Gas Tax Fun	\$1,050,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Appropriation from Covid Recovey Funds	\$69,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Appropriation from Climate Action Funds	\$66,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Appropriation from Growing Community Funds	\$340,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Total Appropriation from Reserve	\$1,701,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$15,000
Funds Transfers	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0

**VILLAGE OF PORT ALICE
BYLAW NO. 702, 2026**

**VILLAGE OF PORT ALICE FINANCIAL PLAN 2026 - 2030
Bylaw No. 702, 2026 - Schedule 'A' Expenditures**

EXPENDITURES	2026	2027	2028	2029	2030
Debenture Debt Interest					
Community Centre Upgrades Matures - 2036	\$33,900	\$34,917	\$35,965	\$37,048	\$38,155
Total Debenture Debt	\$33,900	\$34,917	\$35,965	\$37,048	\$38,155
Capital Expenditures					
General	\$1,389,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Water Utility	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Sewer Utility	\$300,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Total Capital Expenditures	\$1,689,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Other Municipal Purposes					
General Government, & Fiscal Services	\$523,300	\$486,639	\$501,239	\$516,276	\$546,764
Fire & Protective Services	\$108,000	\$80,340	\$82,750	\$85,233	\$87,790
Public Works	\$489,300	\$503,979	\$519,098	\$534,671	\$550,711
Health & Environmental Services	\$319,500	\$323,935	\$333,653	\$343,663	\$353,973
Recreation Services	\$330,000	\$328,570	\$338,427	\$348,580	\$359,037
Water Utility	\$55,000	\$56,650	\$58,350	\$60,100	\$61,903
Sewer Utility	\$112,200	\$115,566	\$119,033	\$122,604	\$126,282
Total Other Municipal Purposes	\$1,937,300	\$1,895,679	\$1,952,550	\$2,011,127	\$2,086,460
Transfers to Reserves					
General Fund	\$98,000	\$98,000	\$98,000	\$98,000	\$98,000
Water Fund	\$16,000	\$16,480	\$16,973	\$17,480	\$18,008
Sewer Fund	\$42,300	\$43,569	\$44,876	\$46,220	\$47,609
Total Transfer of Funds	\$156,300	\$158,049	\$159,849	\$161,700	\$163,617
GRAND TOTAL	\$3,816,500	\$2,088,645	\$2,148,364	\$2,209,875	\$2,288,232
	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00

VILLAGE OF PORT ALICE
BYLAW NO. 702, 2026

Schedule B
Statement of Objectives and Policies

In accordance with Section 165 (3.1) of the Community Charter, the Village is required to include in the Five-Year Financial Plan, objectives and policies regarding each of the following:

1. The proportion of total revenue that comes from each of the funding sources described in Section 165 (7) of the Community Charter;
2. The distribution of property taxes among the property classes, and
3. The use of permissive tax exemptions.

Funding Sources

Table 1 shows the proportion of total revenue proposed to be raised from each funding source in 2026. Property taxes normally contribute to the greatest proportion of the Village's revenue, however, in 2026 the largest proportion is Appropriation from Surplus and Deferred Revenue which is directly related to ongoing Projects. The property tax revenue source offers several advantages. For example, it is simple to administer, and it is easy for residents to understand. It offers a stable and reliable source of revenue for local government services that are simply not practical or undesirable to fund on a user-pay basis. These services include general administration, fire protection, police services, bylaw enforcement, solid waste management, recreation, and local transportation services (i.e) maintenance & upkeep of local roads and streets.

User fees and charges form the third largest portion of planned revenue. Many services can be measured and charged on a user-pay basis. Services that are effectively charged on a user fee basis include water and sewer services, garbage collection, building permits, and the sale of other goods and services such as recreation and cemetery services. Village Council and Staff support the value of user fees that are relative to the cost of the service to avoid the service being subsidized by taxation.

Objective

Over the next 5 years, the Village of Port Alice will review the proportion of revenue that is received from user fees and charges and increase current levels as required.

Policies

The Village will annually review all user fee levels to ensure they are adequately meeting the delivery costs of service.

Where possible, the Village will endeavor to supplement revenues from user fees and charges, rather than taxation, to lessen the burden on its limited property tax base.

Table 1: 2026 Sources of Revenue

Revenue Source	Revenue: Percentages of Total Budget	Dollar Value
Taxation	23%	\$871,500.00
Fees, Charges & Other Revenue	17%	\$654,000.00
Government Grants	15%	\$590,000.00
Approp. from Surplus & Deferred Rev.	45%	\$1,701,000.00
Total	100.00%	\$3,816,500.00

**VILLAGE OF PORT ALICE
BYLAW NO. 702, 2026**

Schedule B Continued

Distribution of Property Tax Rates

Table 2 outlines the distribution of property taxes among the property classes. Historically the major industrial property class provided the largest proportion of property tax revenue. This was appropriate as this class formed the largest portion of the assessment base and was the main reason for the existence of the community. BC Assessment changed the Class of the Major Industrial property to Business in 2020 and significantly reduced the value.

Objectives

The Village Council continues to work with all levels of government and local business to attract additional economic opportunities.

The Village also recognizes the need to maintain the property tax rate for business (class 6) at a low rate.

Policies

Supplement, where possible, revenues from user fees and charges to help offset the tax burden on all property classes.

Council will continue to maintain and encourage economic development initiatives designed to attract more retail and commercial business to invest in the community. New business investments will help offset revenue dependency on all taxpayers by providing a broader tax base.

Align the distribution of tax rates among the property classes with the social and economic goals of the community, particularly to encourage a range of employment opportunities

Regularly review and compare the Village’s distribution of tax burden relative to other BC municipalities.

**Table 2: 2026 Distribution of Property Tax Rates
Based on Preliminary Values**

Property Class			Percentage of Total Property Taxation	2025 Dollar Value
Residential (1)			81.33%	\$691,280.65
Utilities (2)			7.2%	\$60,971.55
Major Industrial (4)			0.00%	\$0.00
Light Industrial (5)			2.47%	\$21,005.09
Business (6)			7.21%	\$61,246.57
Managed Forest (7)			1.82%	\$15,444.14
Recreation (8)			0.006%	\$52.00
Total			100%	\$850,000.00

**VILLAGE OF PORT ALICE
BYLAW NO. 702, 2026**

Schedule B Continued

Permissive Tax Exemptions

The Village of Port Alice Council reviews all existing permissive tax exemption bylaws on an annual basis. Council bases their consideration on the following criteria:

The tax exemption must demonstrate benefit to the community and residents of Port Alice by enhancing the quality of life (economically, socially and culturally) within the community.

The goals, policies and principles of the organization receiving the exemption must not be inconsistent or in conflict with those of the Village of Port Alice.

The organization receiving the exemption must be a registered non-profit society, as the support of the municipality will not be used for commercial or private gain.

Permissive tax exemptions will be considered in conjunction with: (a) other assistance being provided by the Village; (b) the potential demands for Village services or infrastructure arising from the property; and (c) the amount of revenue that the Village will lose if the exemption is granted.

Objective

The Village of Port Alice will continue to provide permissive tax exemptions to non-profit societies that contribute social, economic and cultural benefits to the community.

Policies

Council will continue working with all the non-profit societies for the betterment of the Community.

Reviewed and adopted by Council on 11th March 2026.

Mayor

Chief Administrative Officer



INFORMATION ITEMS



TOWN OF VIEW ROYAL

45 View Royal Avenue, Victoria, BC, Canada V9B 1A6
Ph. 250-479-6800 · Fx. 250-727-9551 · E. info@viewroyal.ca · www.viewroyal.ca

March 18, 2026

Sent via Email

LETTER TO ALL BC MUNICIPAL COUNCILS

Dear Mayor and Council,

RE: Judicial Review Coalition Update — Provincial Housing Legislation (Bills 44, 47, 13, 15, and M216)

This letter provides an update further to the Town of View Royal's correspondence dated December 4, 2025 regarding a potential coordinated Judicial Review of recent provincial housing legislation .

Since issuing the initial invitation, the Town of View Royal, the District of West Vancouver, the District of Oak Bay, the Regional District of North Okanagan, and the Township of Spallumcheen have formally indicated their participation in the coalition. These early participants have recognized the shared concern regarding the cumulative impact of recent provincial housing legislation on local governance, planning authority, and accountability to residents. Dozens of other municipalities have attended information sessions, and others have reached out for further information and support. We continue to receive expressions of interest from councils across British Columbia.

This initiative is not occurring in isolation. Recent actions across the province reinforce the concerns raised in our initial letter. Metro Vancouver mayors sought meaningful engagement with the Province on housing legislation that materially affects municipal authority, planning responsibilities, and public accountability. While the Province acknowledged this request, its response confirmed an implementation-focused approach and did not address the broader governance and procedural concerns raised. This exchange underscores the absence of a forum to resolve these issues collaboratively and reinforces the need for legal clarity. Councils across British Columbia have similarly raised concerns regarding the pace and scale of legislative change, the removal of public hearings, the shift of land-use authority away from locally elected councils, and the implications for infrastructure planning, financial sustainability, and service delivery. Bill M216 and related legislation continue to raise questions regarding the balance between provincial objectives and municipal responsibilities, particularly where expectations are evolving without a clearly defined framework for delivery.

As noted previously, this process is not about opposing housing but about obtaining legal clarity. The coalition's first step will be to commission a shared legal opinion to assess the scope of provincial authority relative to municipalities, the implications of the legislative changes on

procedural fairness and democratic accountability, and the extent to which municipal powers have been altered or constrained. Municipalities that formally join the coalition will have full access to this legal opinion. The estimated budget for the legal opinion is \$150,000, to be shared among participating municipalities through a cost-sharing model to be confirmed.

Following completion of the legal opinion, a subsequent meeting will be convened with participating municipalities to review findings, discuss implications, and determine whether there is sufficient basis and collective support to proceed with a Judicial Review.

In the absence of clarity, municipalities are left managing uncertain planning frameworks, increasing infrastructure and financial pressures, and a growing disconnect between responsibility and authority. At present, a coordinated Judicial Review remains the only available mechanism to obtain a clear and authoritative interpretation of these issues.

Councils are asked to signal their intent to join the coalition no later than March 31, 2026. Municipalities indicating intent will receive a formal invitation and next-step materials in the first week of April, including a cost-sharing framework, a draft Memorandum of Understanding, and the scope for the legal opinion. A meeting of participating and interested municipalities will be held at 10:00 AM on Friday, April 10, 2026, to review the approach, confirm participation, and discuss next steps. Participation at this stage does not commit a municipality to a Judicial Review but ensures access to the legal analysis required to make an informed decision.

This effort is grounded in a shared interest in ensuring clarity in the roles, responsibilities, and relationships between orders of government. We encourage your Council to consider joining this collaborative process.

For further information or to confirm participation, please contact me at Mayor Sid Tobias at mayortobias@viewroyal.ca.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'S. Tobias', written over a circular stamp or seal.

Mayor Sid Tobias
Town of View Royal