



Sorrento-Blind Bay Incorporation Advisory Committee

Note: The following minutes are considered draft/subject to correction when endorsed by the Committee at its next meeting.

MEETING SUMMARY

TIME & PLACE: **Wednesday, February 12, 2020**
6:00 PM – 8:30 PM
Cedar Heights Community Association Hall, 2316 Lakeview Dr., Blind Bay

PURPOSE: This meeting will be the first of five dedicated to a review of the consultants' service and issue sheets. Four sheets, covering one issue and three individual services, will be presented for review and discussion.

The Incorporation Committee, which includes the Electoral Area C Director as non-voting ex-officio, will provide oversight and direction on the study process. Once a report is prepared by the consultant, the committee will present the findings to the CSR D Board and then make a recommendation to the Directors on an incorporation referendum or giving further consideration to dividing Electoral Area C into two separate Electoral Areas. This was supported as an alternative option, should an incorporation process not proceed.

*A decision on incorporation would have to get the approval of the electorate through a **referendum vote** before any change could be made.*

The 'default option' of dividing Electoral Area C into two electoral areas, is in the event that incorporation of Sorrento-Blind Bay does not go ahead.

PRESENT:

Committee Members:

- Brian Butcher (Blind Bay)
- Rose Fritz (Blind Bay)
- Tim Van Den Heuvel (Blind Bay)
- Sandra Heschuk (Sorrento)
- Lorrie Kelsey (Blind Bay)
- Darlene Lincoln (Blind Bay)
- Tracy Lundberg-Schimpf (Blind Bay)
- Rex Porter (Sorrento)
- John Smith (Blind Bay), Chair
- Larry Stephenson (Blind Bay)
- Paul Demenok, Director, Electoral Area C (non-voting ex-officio)

ABSENT:

- Michael Shapcott (Sorrento)
- Patrick Earley (Blind Bay), Vice-Chair

ALSO PRESENT: Allan Neilson, Neilson Strategies and Sherry Hurst, Leftside Partners
Jennifer Sham, CSR D
Tracy Hughes, Communication Coordinator, CSR D

PUBLIC ATTENDEES: Approximately 75 members of the public in attendance.

1. Call to Order at 6:00 PM

John Smith, Committee Chair, called the meeting to order and welcomed the public to the meeting.

2. Volunteer Recording Secretary

Tracy Lundberg-Schimpf volunteered to serve as a Committee Recording Secretary.

3. Adoption of Incorporation Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes – December 12, 2019

A few minor housekeeping changes were suggested.

Moved by Darlene Lincoln

Seconded by Lorrie Kelsey

THAT: the meeting summary of the December 12, 2019 Sorrento-Blind Bay Incorporation Advisory Committee as revised be adopted.

CARRIED

4. Communications Plan

Tracy Hughes reviewed communications documents and plan with the Committee. All documents, minutes and agendas will be available for public review online, at CSRD office, at the South Shuswap library branch in Blind Bay and at the Sorrento Centre. Request from Committee to add individual service sheets to future agendas so the public will know what is coming up at each meeting.

5. Current State Report

Allan Neilson briefed the Committee on minor changes/updates to the Current State Report as suggested by CSRD staff. This report is a background reference document

6. Library Services

Sherry Hurst presented the first service sheet on Library Services

Moved by Larry Stephenson

Seconded by Lorrie Kelsey

THAT: the Library Services sheet as presented by endorsed by the Committee.

CARRIED

7. Parks & Recreation Services

Allan Neilson presented the second service sheet on Parks & Recreation Services. Discussions on taxation spending with current model vs incorporation, maintenance costs, and current rail trail/rec centre allocations.

The Committee requested more clarity on the assumptions for Figure 4 – Allocation of Shared Costs before endorsing.

8. Planning & Building Services

Sherry Hurst presented the third service sheet on Planning & Building Services. Discussion on what assumptions were involved in this, reserve funding, current decision making currently vs incorporation and potential staffing.

Moved by Brian Butcher
Seconded by Darlene Lincoln

THAT: the Planning & Building Services sheet as presented by endorsed by the Committee.

CARRIED

9. Agricultural Properties

Allan Neilson presented the first issue sheet on Agricultural Properties. This is a compilation of issues related to properties within the Agricultural Land Reserve and is for information purposes only.

10. Local Roads Visual Condition Assessment

Allan Neilson briefed the Committee on discussions with the Ministry of Municipal Affairs on plans to conduct a visual road assessment of local roads within the incorporation study area. Discussion on who does the assessment (an independent firm funded by the Province but selected and managed by CSRD). Committee agreed that this information would be critical in making a decision and directed Allan Neilson to proceed.

11. Next Meeting

Monday, March 16, 2020 at Sorrento Memorial Hall, 1150 Passchendaele Road, Sorrento, at 6 pm.

12. Questions from Public in Attendance

At 8:10 PM, community members were invited to ask questions or to provide comments:

Discussions ensued on the following topics:

- Boundaries of areas, both Area C1 & C2 and incorporated area
- AAP process
- Current decision making with CSRD vs potential incorporation.
- Economic development
- Staffing CSRD vs incorporation
- Roadways

How did this incorporation study start? Why are we doing this?

Incorporation has been under discussion for almost 20 years. It comes from people both in Sorrento and Blind Bay that have been dissatisfied with the current decision-making process. There has also been discussions back and forth with the province. In 2016, CSRD received funding from the province to do a governance study. This process took over year and looked at the current state of governance and service delivery in the south Shuswap, consider the

concerns and interests of residents and identify future governance options for Electoral Area C. The report can be found here:

<https://pub-csrd.escribemeetings.com/filestream.ashx?DocumentId=3116>

A number of factors were considered when determining the best option including: geographical boundaries, current government services, population density, future development potential, road networks, property assessments and agricultural land.

The option which best met the criteria for consideration for further study by the Ministry of Municipal Affairs was the formation of one municipality comprised of both Sorrento and Blind Bay.

A boundary study was then commissioned:

<http://www.csr.bc.ca/sites/default/files/reports/Electoral%20Area%20C%20-%20South%20Shuswap%20-%20Boundary%20Analysis%20-%20Final%20Report%20%28January%2C%202019%29.pdf>

The Province of BC's Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing has now funded the Sorrento-Blind Bay Incorporation Advisory Committee and study which is looking at two options: the incorporation of Sorrento-Blind Bay vs the division of the current Electoral Area C into two separate electoral areas.

13. Adjourn

Moved by Brian Butcher

Seconded by Larry Stephenson

THAT: the meeting be adjourned at 8:55 pm.

CARRIED

Chair