

Canadian flag is a symbol of our nation's unity and represents all the citizens of Canada without distinction of race, language, belief or opinion. Flying the Canadian, Provincial and Vancouver Island flags on official RDN flag poles fully represents diversity and inclusiveness in our community.

Staff researched the protocols of the Government of Canada and the Province of British Columbia with respect to half-masting, and the draft policy incorporates the protocols of these two levels of government that staff determined were appropriate to the needs of the RDN.

Staff research included our member municipalities: the City of Nanaimo, the City of Parksville, the District of Lantzville and the Town of Qualicum Beach. The City of Nanaimo is the only member municipality of the RDN to have any material regarding flag half-masting. Staff also researched three regional districts in our area, and none of them have a flag policy (Capital Regional District, Cowichan Valley Regional District, Comox Valley Regional District). The City of Nanaimo does not have an official Council Policy, but their flag protocol administered by their staff is attached for information. To meet our needs, our policy is more specific than the protocol used by the City of Nanaimo, so there will be variation between our organizations.

ALTERNATIVES

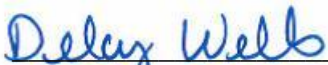
1. To not adopt a Flag Policy and continue with the current ad hoc practice for administering our flags.
2. To amend the proposed Flag Policy prior to adoption.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

There are no financial implications.

STRATEGIC PLAN IMPLICATIONS

The adoption of the Flag Policy will support our goal of focusing on improved two-way communication within the Regional District and with our communities.



Delcy Wells

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September 12, 2018

Reviewed by:

- D. Wells, General Manager, Corporate Services
- G. Garbutt, A/Chief Administrative Officer

Attachments

1. City of Nanaimo Flag Protocol
2. Draft Flag Policy, Regional District of Nanaimo