

**Delegation:** David A. Freeman, re Regional Growth Strategy Amendment to Implement the Town of Qualicum Beach Official Community Plan

**Summary:** Based upon information currently available to the Delegate, the procedures of the Town of Qualicum Beach as to its inclusion of an amendment to the review and final passage of the Official Community Plan upon which the application by the Town of Qualicum Beach to the Regional District of Nanaimo for an amending bylaw is a flagrant breach of the rules of procedure and contrary to the community's input on the subject of amendments of the urban containment boundary.

The Board's Staff Report, dated August 15, 2018 upon which the proposed amending Bylaw is grounded, proposes that the Board proceed on the basis of a "minor amendment" on the suggestion that the matter can proceed in this format since the Town maintains that the Growth Containment Boundary (GCB) relates to "governance" and not to "land use". This statement has no authority and is intended to circumvent the correct statutory process, which includes lands that are in the ALR. In addition, the lands intended to be included in this amendment would border DIRECTLY on RDN boundaries and thus the RDN would no longer be entitled to any input as to how any such development by the Town might impact on RDN residents or other RDN land abutting the Town boundary.

The purpose of the statutory involvement of the RDN and adjacent municipalities is to provide for that input where appropriate. It is therefore wise that the RDN proceed cautiously upon such a change by way of the regular procedure. Your Staff Report states "Should the RGS amendment process proceed through the minor amendment process there are no anticipated financial implications to the RDN. However, should the RDN proceed through the REGULAR amendment, then there are some financial implications".

Clearly your Staff Planner feels that less costs are better than Board protection. Whilst the Town of Qualicum Beach may have thought that they were sailing through easy sideline waters, the future of the OCP may not be that certain. Just as the Prime Minister of our great country stated, "the pipeline will be built and spades will be in the ground soon", the judges of our courts ruled otherwise.

**Action Requested:** The delegation seeks the Board of the RDN to defer progress on the proposed amendment beyond first reading, pending further review of legality of the procedures leading up to the request received by the RDN from the Town of Qualicum Beach for the passing of the proposed amending bylaw.