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**TO:** Regional District of Nanaimo Board      **MEETING:** January 22, 2019

**FROM:** Tom Armet  
Manager, Building & Bylaw Services      **FILE:**

**SUBJECT:** AVICC Resolutions 2019 – Regulate and Enforce Vehicle Parking on Provincial Roads

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### **RECOMMENDATION**

That the following resolution be forwarded to the Association of Vancouver Island and Coastal Communities for consideration at their 2019 annual general meeting:

WHEREAS regional districts have not been granted the authority to regulate vehicle parking on roadways in rural areas;

AND WHEREAS the Province and the RCMP have limited resources to regulate and enforce the increased volume of vehicles parked illegally on roads and right-of-ways that cause congestion and unsafe conditions for other vehicles, pedestrians and emergency first responders;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Province of British Columbia extend authority to regional districts to regulate and enforce vehicle parking on provincial roads and right-of-ways.

### **SUMMARY**

A resolution for the Vancouver Island and Coastal Communities (AVICC) 2019 annual general meeting requests that the Province extend authority to regional districts to regulate and enforce vehicle parking on provincial roads.

### **BACKGROUND**

The Regional District of Nanaimo (RDN) receives numerous requests from the public to address vehicles illegally parked on roads and right-of-ways, particularly in proximity to regional parks, trails, beach access and boat launches. Recreational areas are extremely popular and attract high volumes of users from the region and other areas of the Province. There is often insufficient dedicated parking resulting in illegal parking. These factors combine and impact area residents and others by blocking access to private properties, impeding the free flow of traffic, creating unsafe conditions for pedestrian traffic and blocking access for emergency first responders.

In some areas, such as Gabriola Island, vehicle owners are parking or leaving their vehicles for extended periods of time, at boat launching areas, causing congestion and unsafe conditions.

Parking enforcement is outside the jurisdiction of the RDN (and other regional districts) as provincial/rural roads fall under the authority of the Province of BC. Complaints about parking are often made to the RDN and then referred to the RCMP or Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure (MOTI). The RCMP has jurisdiction to enforce the Motor Vehicle Act relating to parking, however this is not a high priority for the police. MOTI staff have limited ability to deal with illegally parked vehicles or to otherwise regulate parking in or near recreational areas that are managed by the RDN.

Extending authority to regional districts to enforce parking regulations will address gaps in legislation that create unnecessary problems for rural communities.

### **ALTERNATIVES**

1. The Association of Vancouver Island and Coastal Communities be requested to consider the resolution to extend authority to regional districts to regulate and enforce vehicle parking on provincial roads and right-of-ways.
2. That alternate direction be provided.

### **FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

The financial implications of regulating and enforcing parking on provincial roads has not been determined.

### **STRATEGIC PLAN IMPLICATIONS**

The preparation of draft resolutions for consideration of the Board and submission to the AVICC aligns with the Board's key focus area within the Strategic Plan of 'Relationships'. Through the AVICC resolutions process, the Board is provided with opportunities for the RDN to partner with other governments to advance our regions interests, and to advocate for issues outside of our jurisdiction.



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January 14, 2019

Reviewed by:

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- P. Carlyle, Chief Administrative Officer