News Release



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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CVRD seeking volunteers for new Accessibility Advisory Committee

DUNCAN, BC – In an effort to ensure its services and infrastructure is easily accessible to all residents of the Cowichan region, the Cowichan Valley Regional District (CVRD) is establishing a new public committee to provide advice and feedback to the organization.

In accordance with the <u>Accessible British Columbia Act</u>, the Accessibility Advisory Committee will be comprised of a diverse group of seven to eleven volunteer members, representative of the various backgrounds and interests in the area of accessibility for persons living with disabilities. The committee will be appointed by the CVRD Board in accordance with the CVRD Procedure Bylaw and operate under the <u>Terms of Reference</u> available for review on the CVRD website.

"We recognize the many barriers that still exist when it comes to providing equitable access to publicly funded places and services," said Aaron Stone, Board Chair of the Cowichan Valley Regional District. "Our Board of Directors look forward to working with this new committee to identify and address issues that will improve the quality of life for current and future residents of our communities."

One of the primary goals of the Accessibility Advisory Committee will be the development of an accessibility plan, which will consider the following principles:

- Inclusion
- Adaptability
- Diversity
- Collaboration
- Self-determination
- Universal design

Volunteer members serving on the committee will be integral to accomplishing a number of action items during a three-year term, which include providing feedback on accessibility barriers and best practices to ensure Regional District services and infrastructure is inclusive and accessible.

Residents interested in expressing their interest to join this committee are invited to review more information about the committee on the CVRD website and complete a <u>digital application</u>, or a paper copy available from reception at local CVRD Recreation Centres and at the CVRD offices located at 175 Ingram Street, Duncan, B.C.

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