



Message from the Chair of the Board

Welcome! Our region is a vibrant, diverse, and beautiful place we are privileged to call home. From our majestic forests to our welcoming neighborhoods, we are fortunate to share this land.

However, it is not without challenges. The affordability crisis continues to pressure families. Living through a global pandemic tested our resilience and highlighted our differing priorities and perspectives. As your elected officials, and your neighbours and friends, we see and feel these concerns.

Services provided by our local government like clean drinking water, recreation centres, parks and trails are the cornerstones of a resilient community. They foster learning, promote health, and bring us together. These aren't just amenities—they are investments in our well-being and quality of life.

Building trust in these services and in one another requires collaboration and understanding, and is foundational to building a thriving and inclusive Cowichan Valley. Together, with kindness and shared purpose, we can build something better. I invite you to reach out to your local elected official. We are here to listen and work with you.

Warm regards, Kate Segall, Chair, Cowichan Valley Regional District

Your Local Regional Government

The Cowichan Valley Regional District is governed by a Board comprised of elected directors from four municipalities and an elected director from each of the nine electoral areas.

We provide a broad range of services to residents. While a small number of these services are mandated by the Province (solid waste, emergency planning, land use planning), the majority of services provided by the CVRD such as bylaw enforcement, economic developement, fire protection and water and sewer systems are determined by the Board. Learn more about our communities.

Funds required to operate the various regional district services are generated through grants, property taxes, fees and charges. Unlike municipalities, regional districts are required to match the costs and benefits of its services to the residents that benefit from them; this means residents pay for the services they receive.

The CVRD acknowledges our presence on the traditional, ancestral, and unceded lands of the the Quw'utsun, Malahat, Ts'uubaaasatx, Halalt, Penelakut, Stz'uminus, Lyackson, Pauquachin, Ditidaht and Pacheedaht people who have resided here since time immemorial.

Learn more about our Vision, Mission & Guiding Principles, visit: CVRD Strategic Plan 2023-2026.

CVRD Head Office: 175 Ingram St., Duncan, B.C. V9L 1N8

Phone: 250.746.2500 or 1.800.665.3955

CVRD Board of Directors

Electoral Area Directors

- Area A Mill Bay / Malahat Kate Segall - Chair
- Area B Shawnigan Lake Sierra Acton
 - Area C Cobble Hill Mike Wilson
- Area D Cowichan Bay Hilary Abbott
- Area E Cowichan Station/Sahtlam/Glenora Alison Nicholson
- Area F Cowichan Lake South/Skutz Falls Ian Morrison
- Area G Saltair/Gulf Islands Jesse McClinton
 - · Area H North Oyster/Diamond Ben Maartman
 - Area I Youbou/Meade Creek Karen Deck **Municipal Directors**

• Town of Lake Cowichan Tim McGonigle - Vice Chair

- Town of Ladysmith Deena Beeston
 - City of Duncan Michelle Staples
- Municipality of North Cowichan Rob Douglas, Chris Istace, Christopher Justice, Mike Caljouw

Our Services

Arts & Culture

Get ready to enjoy arts, dance, concert events and more all over the Cowichan region! The Cowichan Performing Arts Centre (CPAC) offers a professional theatre space for both touring acts and local groups. Our division also provides annual funding for five sub-regional arts councils.

Bylaw Enforcement

Dog licences, tags and kennel licences are available in all electoral areas of the CVRD. Coastal Animal Control Services of BC is contracted to provide dog control services. Phone: 250.748.3395. Please contact your local government organization for their dog services if you reside outside of electoral areas.

FAOs at cvrd.ca

Fireworks are regulated by CVRD Bylaw No. 4514 in all electoral areas. The goal of the bylaw is to reduce the risk of personal injury, noise, and property damage from fireworks use and minimize the impact on livestock and pets. Permit applications are required at least one week prior to the event date. Permitted dates: January 1st, July 1st, October 31st.

Development Services

Planners within this Division are responsible for implementing current land use planning policies, regulations and electoral area planning. Development Services staff are available to assist residents with understanding requirements for their specific project and particular location. Building permits may be required. For general questions, call us at 250.746.2620. Visit PlanYourCowichan.ca for ongoing projects and connect with us!

<u>FAQs</u> at cvrd.ca

Environmental Services

We aim to protect the natural environment of the Cowichan Valley region through a variety of plans and programs and by working with a wide variety of partners. Through us you can learn about water restrictions, climate change and climate adaption in the Cowichan area at CowichanAdapts.ca.

Air Quality and Outdoor Burning information can be found at: Know the Rules on the cvrd.ca website.

Finance

We're responsible for the financial administration of 178 services that the CVRD provides to its residents. This includes the budgeting, accounts payable, utilities billing, accounts receivable, financial reporting and financial statements. Visit the Finance webpage or call us to set up online payments.

Parks & Recreation

Seeking a great regional or community park to recreate with family, connect with nature or have a hiking trail workout? The Parks & Trails Division manages over 200 Community Parks, eight Regional Parks, two Regional Trails, as well as Cobble Hill Mountain Regional Recreation Area. Recreation Centres in the Cowichan area support many programs and events! Try skating, bowling, yoga, fitness classes or learn to paint! Adult, children and youth programs are available. Check out reccowichan.ca for details.

Recycling & Waste Management

The new CVRD Three-Stream Curbside Collection service includes organics, recyclables, garbage, and glass collection for all single-family homes in all Electoral Areas. Want to stay on top of your collection schedule and get collection updates sent straight to your phone or email? Download the Cowichan Recycles App!

FAOs at cvrd.ca

Transit

Transit Services are offered in partnership with BC Transit, the CVRD and the local operating company (Transdev).

Scheduled local transit service is available throughout the CVRD with the exception of Electoral Areas G (Saltair / Gulf Islands) and H (North Oyster / Diamond) which do not currently participate.

<u>Utility Services</u>

We're responsible for the management and operation of 16 sewer systems, 21 water systems and select drainage and street-lighting systems in all eletoral areas. Please check with the CVRD to determine if your property is serviced by one of these systems or by another supplier. Information about fees are on the cvrd.ca website or call us if you have a question. 250.746.2530



Emergency Management Cowichan (EMC)

The Cowichan area has a Regional Emergency Program that includes nine electoral areas, four municipalities and works collaboratively with the First Nations. EMC is a local and regional government service and a Division of the CVRD that focuses on emergency management. We're here to lead the communities throughout the Cowichan region to prepare, respond, recover and mitigate for emergency or disaster situations. Find out more at: emcowichan.ca and sign up for the Cowichan Alert App.

For Emergencies Call 9-1-1

Want to work with us?
Visit Careers at cyrd.ca!

Help us help you Plan Your Cowichan! Engage with us at planyourcowichan.ca



Key Contacts

CVRD Head Office: 250.746.2500 Building Inspection: 250.746.2610

Bylaw Enforcement: 250.746.2655

Garbage & Recycling: 250.746.2540

Planning & Development: 250.746.2620

Utility Billing Hotline: 250.746.2582

Water & Sewer: 250.746.2530

CVRD Head Office: 175 Ingram St., Duncan, B.C. V9L 1N8

Phone: 250.746.2500 or 1.800.665.3955

