



Peace River Regional District REPORT

To: Chair and Directors

Date: August 16, 2016

From: Chris Cvik, CAO

Subject: Appointment of Alternate Directors

RECOMMENDATION(S):

1. That the Regional District Board approves the attached response be sent to the Ministry of Community, Sport, and Cultural Development.

BACKGROUND/RATIONALE:

At the Peace River Regional District Board Meeting on August 11, 2016, the Board passed the following two resolutions with respect to the appointment of Alternate Directors.

NEW BUSINESS:

NB-1

Director Sperling

APPOINTMENT OF ALTERNATE DIRECTORS

RD/16/08/40

MOVED Director Johansson, SECONDED Director Ackerman,

That a letter be forwarded to the Ministry of Community, Sport and Cultural Development regarding the appointment of Alternate Directors to a Regional District Board to:

Request information as to the number of alternate directors that may be appointed from municipalities and rural areas; and

Suggest that the *Local Government Act* be amended to allow the appointment of more than one alternate director for a municipality or rural area.

CARRIED.

Staff Initials:

Dept. Head:

CAO: *Chris Cvik*

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OPTIONS:

1. That the Regional District Board approves the attached response be sent to the Ministry of Community, Sport, and Cultural Development.
2. That the Regional Board give further direction to Administration.

STRATEGIC PLAN RELEVANCE:

COMMUNICATIONS:

FINANCIAL CONSIDERATION(S):

OTHER CONSIDERATION(S):



PEACE RIVER REGIONAL DISTRICT

Office of the Chief Administrative Officer

August 16, 2016

Ms. Dianna Porter, Advisory Officer
Ministry of Community, Sports and Cultural Development
Advisory Services – Governance & Structure Branch
PO Box 9839 Stn Prov Govt,
Victoria BC, V8W 9T1

Dear Ms. Porter:

RE: Questions on Appointment of Alternate Directors

At the Peace River Regional District Board Meeting on August 11, 2016, the Board passed the following two resolutions with respect to the appointment of Alternate Directors.

NEW BUSINESS:

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Suggest that the *Local Government Act* be amended to allow for the appointment of more than one alternate director for a municipality or rural area.

CARRIED.

August 25, 2016

PLEASE REPLY TO:

☐ BOX 810, DAWSON CREEK, BC V1G 4H8 TELEPHONE: (250) 784-3200 or (800) 670-7773 FAX: (250) 784-3201 EMAIL: prrd.dc@prrd.bc.ca
☐ 9505 100 STREET, FORT ST. JOHN, BC V1J 4N4 TELEPHONE: (250) 785-8084 Fax: (250) 785-1125 EMAIL: prrd.fsj@prrd.bc.ca

The motions are based around your email of August 4th to me where you confirmed our understanding and interpretation of Section 200 of the *Local Government Act*. Namely, that if a municipality has only one seat on the regional board, they would only have one alternate appointed to act on their behalf. Based on this information, questions from the Board that we would like your assistance with are:

1. Can you please confirm if there are any limits to the number of alternate directors that may be appointed under Section 200(b)(3). The Act allows for multiple alternates but does not specify a maximum.
2. Can you please confirm the meaning of "...establishing a system to determine which alternate director is to act in the place of any absent municipal director" as outlined under Section 200(b)(3). What is meant by 'a system'?
3. Clarification on why municipalities with only one director cannot appoint more than one elected alternate. The concern is that often (in particular during the summer holiday season), neither a director nor their alternate is available for a Board Meeting and their spot at the Board table is left vacant. This seems unfair when larger municipalities **with** more than one director can appoint several alternates thus ensuring that an elected representative is available at the Board Meeting. Can you please suggest next steps to lobby for changes to the legislation to allow municipalities with only one director to appoint more than one alternate?
4. Clarification on why electoral areas cannot appoint more than one alternate. The concern is that often (in particular during the summer holiday season), neither an elected electoral area director nor their designated alternate who has been approved by the Board is available for Board Meetings. This seems unfair when larger municipalities **with** more than one director can appoint several alternates thus ensuring that an elected representative is available at the Board Meeting. If the rationale under this item is that alternates are appointed not elected, can you please suggest next steps to lobby for changes to the legislation to have alternate rural directors elected to their positions?

We appreciate your assistance and look forward to your response.

Sincerely,



Chris Cvik, CAO
Peace River Regional District

August 25, 2016