



STAFF REPORT TO COMMITTEE

DATE OF REPORT March 15, 2023
MEETING TYPE & DATE Committee of the Whole of March 22, 2023
FROM: General Manager
Corporate Services Department
SUBJECT: Cowichan Housing Association Overview
FILE: 2240-20 Cowichan Housing Assn Funding 2022

PURPOSE/INTRODUCTION

The Cowichan Housing Association is presenting at the March 22, 2023 Board meeting, and this report is to provide background information on this Financial Contribution Service.

RECOMMENDED RESOLUTION

For Information

BACKGROUND

Function 498 Cowichan Housing Association was established in 2018 following a successful referendum on the question;

Are you in favour of the Cowichan Valley Regional District adopting "CVRD Bylaw No. 4201 – Cowichan Housing Association Annual Financial Contribution Service Establishment Bylaw, 2018" to provide regional programs and services related to affordable housing and homelessness prevention?

There were 10,539 votes in favour and 8,798 votes against. The Service Establishment Bylaw subsequently adopted is attached for reference (Attachment A)

A three-year financial contribution agreement was entered into and covered the period January 1, 2019 - December 31, 2021. The agreement was then revised and renewed in 2022 and is currently in effect until December 31, 2023. The current agreement is also attached for reference (Attachment B)

ANALYSIS

n/a

FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS

\$250,000 of operational funding is forwarded annually as per the agreement, while Housing Trust funds are held by the Regional District until the CHA submits a request for their use.

The current Housing Trust fund balance at December 31, 2022 is \$802,263

The annual Housing Trust funds are placed in the Trust fund in August each year, after requisition funds have been received by the CVRD. If there is no application to use Housing Trust Funds during 2023, the balance will be \$1,302,263 at December 31, 2023.

The agreement includes an administrative fee charged to the CHA by General Government. An increase in requisition to cover an increase in the General Government administration fee was the only increase to the CHA budget for 2023.

COMMUNICATION CONSIDERATIONS

None

STRATEGIC/BUSINESS PLAN CONSIDERATIONS

Housing needs in the Cowichan Valley continue to be discussed as a Strategic Priority for the Board.

GENERAL MANAGER COMMENTS

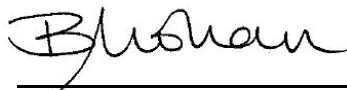
☒ Not Applicable

Referred to (upon completion):

- ☐ Community Services (*Arts & Culture, Cowichan Community Centre, Cowichan Lake Recreation, South Cowichan Recreation, Facilities & Transit*)
- ☐ Corporate Services (*Finance, Human Resources, Information Technology, Legislative Services*)
- ☐ Operations (*Parks & Trails, Recycling & Waste Management, Utilities*)
- ☐ Land Use Services (*Building Inspection & Bylaw Enforcement, Community Planning, Development Services, Strategic Initiatives*)
- ☐ Strategic Services (*Communications & Engagement, Economic Development, Emergency Management, Environmental Services*)

Prepared by:

Reviewed by:



Barbra Mohan, MBA
General Manager

Select DM Name Here
Select DM Title Here

Select GM Name Here
Select GM Title Here

Reviewed for form and content and approved for submission to the Committee:

Resolution:

Financial Considerations:

☐ Corporate Officer

☒ Chief Financial Officer

ATTACHMENTS:

Attachment A – CVRD Bylaw No. 4201 Cowichan Housing Association Annual Financial Contribution Service Establishment Bylaw, 2018
Attachment B – Financial Contribution Agreement