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July 31, 2026

File: 0400-20

The Honourable Christine Boyle
Minister of Housing and Municipal Affairs
Via email: HMA.Minister@gov.bc.ca

Dear Minister Boyle:

**RE: PROVINCIAL FUNDING SUPPORT FOR A GOVERNANCE AND SERVICES STUDY -
MAGIC LAKE ESTATES**

On behalf of the Capital Regional District (CRD) Board, I am writing to request provincial funding to undertake a Governance and Services Study for the Magic Lake Estates on North Pender Island.

In 2023, the Province provided \$15,000 to the CRD to fund a Community Issues Assessment and the community feedback identified areas of high importance with low satisfaction. The study did not result in a concrete recommendation for a path forward towards changes in governance.

The Magic Lake Estates Community Issues Assessment found that residents are generally satisfied with most local services, particularly water and sewer, fire protection, health care, policing, and parks, but identified concerns regarding local roads, active transportation, affordable housing, and coordination among multiple service providers. The report recommends improving communication, community engagement, and cross-jurisdictional collaboration while continuing to address service delivery concerns within the existing governance framework.

There has been a request from the Magic Lake Property Owners Society for further review of the governance model, and the following motion was carried by the CRD Board at their June 10, 2026 meeting:

That the CRD Board request funding from the Province to complete a Governance and Services Study for the Magic Lake Estates on North Pender Island that would provide the technical and financial details of the current system and would inform the consideration of structural changes in governance, which could include changing electoral area boundaries, or incorporation as a standalone municipality.

This investment would help establish a clear understanding of current conditions and future options, providing all parties with the information required to evaluate governance and service delivery arrangements that best support the long-term interests of the community.

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Thank you for your consideration of this request. I would welcome the opportunity to discuss this matter further.

Sincerely,

Cliff McNeil-Smith

Cliff McNeil-Smith
Chair, Capital Regional District Board

cc: CRD Board
Ted Robbins, Chief Administrative Officer, CRD

