



February 5 2025

Reference: 275167

Colin Plant  
Chair  
Capital Regional District  
PO Box 1000  
Victoria BC V8W 2S6  
Email: [cjenkinson@crd.bc.ca](mailto:cjenkinson@crd.bc.ca)

Dear Chair Plant:

Thank you for your correspondence of July 24, 2024, sharing your support for reform of the *Local Government Act* (LGA), a topic discussed at the 2024 Union of BC Municipalities (UBCM) Convention. As Minister of Housing and Municipal Affairs, I am pleased to now have the opportunity to respond.

Spurred in part by the efforts of the Regional District of Nanaimo, the Ministry of Housing and Municipal Affairs is hearing renewed interest in legislative changes to the LGA to better support regional districts.

I recognize that while regional districts have proven to be a successful and flexible model to meet the varied needs of their communities, we hear that there are areas where there may be barriers to regional districts addressing these needs. I know that the social, political, and economic environments that regional districts operate in also continue to evolve and modern approaches to the diverse issues such as climate change, environmental stewardship, and First Nations' participation in regional governance are needed.

As the Minister responsible for local governments, I am always interested in ensuring that the regional district legislative framework works effectively. At the same time, I recognize that any legislative change has to be focused on resolving issues that are a priority for communities across British Columbia. The Ministry will need to have a comprehensive picture of what the barriers and challenges are for regional districts, and whether these are the same in all regional districts or specific to certain geographic areas.

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I want to draw your attention to the session that UBCM is facilitating during the 2025 Electoral Area Director's Forum in this area. Please see the 2025 agenda items at the following link: [www.ubcm.ca/about-ubcm/latest-news/agenda-items-2025-electoral-area-directors-forum](http://www.ubcm.ca/about-ubcm/latest-news/agenda-items-2025-electoral-area-directors-forum)

Ministry staff are also available to support the exploration and identification of areas for further work.

Thank you again for taking the time to write.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Ravi Kahlon', with a stylized, flowing script.

Ravi Kahlon  
Minister of Housing and Municipal Affairs