

REPORT TO CAPITAL REGIONAL DISTRICT BOARD MEETING OF WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 11, 2026

SUBJECT AAP Requirements for Bylaw No. 4704: Performing Arts Facilities Service Establishing Bylaw No. 1, 2025

ISSUE SUMMARY

The CRD Board must establish the process for conducting an alternative approval process (AAP) by establishing the total number of electors, approving the deadline to receive elector responses, approving a synopsis for the bylaw, the statutory notice, and the elector response form.

BACKGROUND

At its meeting held October 8, 2025, the Capital Regional District (CRD) Board gave third reading to Bylaw No. 4704, “Performing Arts Facilities Service Establishing Bylaw No. 1, 2025” (Appendix A).

The purpose of Bylaw No. 4704 is to authorize the establishment of a new Performing Arts Facilities Service for the purpose of operating and funding regional performing arts facilities within the Capital Regional District. The maximum amount that can be requisitioned annually for the service is three million dollars (\$3,000,000) or an amount equal to the amount that could be raised by a property value tax rate of \$0.0171 per one thousand dollars (\$1,000) of the net taxable value of the land and improvements within the service area.

Prior to adopting a new service establishment bylaw, participating area approval is required and will be obtained for the entire proposed Performing Arts Facilities Service area by alternative approval process. The alternative approval process applies to all electors in the Southern Gulf Islands Electoral Area and all municipalities of the Capital Regional District, including Central Saanich, Colwood, Esquimalt, Highlands, Langford, Metchosin, North Saanich, Oak Bay, Saanich, Sidney, Sooke, Victoria, and View Royal.

The following documents have been prepared in accordance with the applicable sections of the *Local Government Act* and the *Community Charter* and must be approved by the CRD Board:

- Synopsis of Bylaw No. 4704 (Appendix B)
- Notice of AAP for Bylaw No. 4704 (Appendix C)
- Elector Response Form for Bylaw No. 4704 (Appendix D)

With an AAP, the Board may proceed with adopting the bylaw if less than 10% of electors submit a signed Elector Response Form indicating that the Board must obtain the assent of the electors by way of assent voting (referendum). The total number of electors in the proposed Performing Arts Facilities Service area is determined to be 315,735 of which 10% is 31,574 electors. The AAP Elector Response Form will be available when the statutory Notice of AAP is published on February 17, 2026 and the response period will close at 4:30 pm on March 30, 2026.

ALTERNATIVES

Alternative 1

1. That in accordance with section 86(3) of the *Community Charter*, the date of March 30, 2026 be confirmed as the deadline by which elector responses, under the alternative approval process for CRD Bylaw No. 4704, must be submitted to the Capital Regional District by qualified electors within the service participating area;
2. That the attached Synopsis of Bylaw No. 4704 (Appendix B), Notice of Alternative Approval Process (Appendix C), Elector Response Form (Appendix D), and AAP communication channels (Appendix E) be approved; and
3. That the total number of registered electors within the service participating area is 315,735 and that 10% of that number is 31,574 electors.

Alternative 2

That this report be referred back to staff for additional information.

IMPLICATIONS

Alignment with Board and Corporate Priorities

In the current CRD Corporate Plan (2023-2026), initiative 10b-2 states the CRD will “Scale up regional support for performing arts facilities within the region.” This could be achieved by the Performing Arts Facilities Service proposed through establishing Bylaw No. 4704.

Communication Channels

The AAP notification for Bylaw No. 4704 will launch on February 17, 2026. The purpose of the communication approach is to inform electors in the proposed Performing Arts Facilities Service area about the AAP, provide information regarding the opportunity to submit response forms prior to the deadline, provide information regarding the purpose and intent of the service, and address questions that may arise during the process.

The AAP communication channels plan is attached as Appendix E. In addition, the Frequently Asked Questions related to the purchase of land and borrowing is attached as Appendix F.

CONCLUSION

The CRD Board had previously approved obtaining participating area approval for the entire service area by regional alternative approval process for Bylaw No. 4704, “*Performing Arts Facilities Service Establishing Bylaw No. 1, 2025*”. Prior to conducting the alternative approval process, the Board must confirm the deadline to receive elector responses as March 30, 2026, establish the number of eligible electors, and approve the synopsis of Bylaw No. 4704 (Appendix B), Notice of Alternative Approval Process (Appendix C), and the Elector Response Form (Appendix D) in accordance with the applicable provincial legislation.

RECOMMENDATION

1. That in accordance with section 86(3) of the *Community Charter*, the date of March 30, 2026 be confirmed as the deadline by which elector responses, under the alternative approval process for CRD Bylaw No. 4704, must be submitted to the Capital Regional District by qualified electors within the service participating area;
2. That the attached Synopsis of Bylaw No. 4704 (Appendix B), Notice of Alternative Approval Process (Appendix C), Elector Response Form (Appendix D), and AAP communication channels (Appendix E) be approved; and
3. That the total number of registered electors within the service participating area is 315,735 and that 10% of that number is 31,574 electors.

Submitted by:	Marlene Lagoa, MPA, Manager, Legislative Services & Deputy Corporate Officer
Concurrence:	Kristen Morley, J.D., General Manager, Corporate Services & Corporate Officer
Concurrence:	Varinia Somosan, CPA, CGA, Acting Chief Financial Officer, GM Finance & IT
Concurrence:	Ted Robbins, B. Sc., C. Tech., Chief Administrative Officer

ATTACHMENT(S)

- Appendix A: Bylaw No. 4704 at Third Reading
Appendix B: Synopsis of Bylaw No. 4704
Appendix C: Notice of AAP for Bylaw No. 4704
Appendix D: Elector Response Form for Bylaw No. 4704
Appendix E: AAP Communication Channels for Bylaw No. 4704
Appendix F: Frequently Asked Questions – Theatres AAP

**CAPITAL REGIONAL DISTRICT
BYLAW NO. 4704**

A BYLAW TO ESTABLISH A PERFORMING ARTS FACILITIES SERVICE

WHEREAS:

- A. Under Bylaw No. 2587, "Royal Theatre Local Service Area Establishment Bylaw No. 1, 1998", the Board established a service to purchase, fund, operate, equip, sell, and maintain the Royal Theatre on behalf of the City of Victoria, District of Oak Bay, and District of Saanich;
- B. Under Bylaw No. 2685, "McPherson Playhouse Local Service Area Establishment Bylaw No. 1, 1999", the Board established a service to fund, operate, purchase, equip, and maintain the McPherson Playhouse on behalf of the City of Victoria;
- C. The Board of the Capital Regional District wishes to establish a service for the purpose of operating and funding the planning, development, operating costs, capital improvements, and theatre rental subsidies of performing arts facilities with regional impact;
- D. Participating area approval is required and elector approval has been obtained for the entire service area by alternative approval process, pursuant to s. 342 and 345 of the *Local Government Act*; and
- E. The approval of the Inspector of Municipalities has been obtained under section 342(1)(a) of the *Local Government Act*;

NOW THEREFORE, the Board of the Capital Regional District, in open meeting assembled hereby enacts as follows:

Definitions

1. The following definitions are used in this bylaw, both in plural and singular:
 - (a) A "performing arts facility with regional impact" and "regional performing arts facility" means a public venue that:
 - i. is located within the boundaries of the Service Area;
 - ii. is designed for the primary purpose and function of performing arts presentations;
 - iii. attracts audiences from beyond its local area;
 - iv. functions as a roadhouse-style presentation venue that is available for bookings from a wide range of commercial and community user groups on a year-round basis;
 - v. is not embedded within an educational, religious, or for-profit organization; and
 - vi. is owned or operated by a public authority, non-profit, registered charity, or local government, or a combination thereof.

- (b) “roadhouse-style presentation venue” means a venue available for rental or use by travelling and local productions, and not possessed or controlled by a single performing arts producing company or organized group of such companies.

Service

2. The service being established and to be operated is a regional performing arts facilities funding service (the “**Performing Arts Facilities Service**”) for the purpose of operating and funding regional performing arts facilities including, without limiting the foregoing:
 - (a) planning, development, operating costs, capital improvements, and theatre rental subsidies of performing arts facilities with regional impact;
 - (b) supporting regional performing arts facilities:
 - i. directly through operation, ownership, lease, and asset management; and
 - ii. indirectly through grant contributions to regional performing arts facilities owned, operated, and maintained by other non-profit organizations or local governments.
 - (c) funding, operating, maintaining, equipping, purchasing, and selling the Royal Theatre and McPherson Playhouse where capital funds may be used for, but are not limited to, the asset management, renovation, reconstruction, or rebuilding of the respective theatre facilities, machinery, equipment, reserve fund transfers or annual debt servicing, and where annual operating amounts may also include capital expenditures of the same nature if necessary or desirable;
 - (d) operating grant programs benefitting performing arts facilities with regional impact, including:
 - i. regional performing arts facility planning projects;
 - ii. capital improvements and asset management related to regional performing arts facilities, including payment of debt;
 - iii. offsetting costs associated with rental of regional performing arts facilities by local community groups and schools; and
 - iv. operations of such regional performing arts facilities.
 - (e) assisting regional performing arts facilities by applying for planning, capital, operating, and other grants associated with, or operated by external organizations.

Boundaries

3. The boundaries of the service area are the boundaries of the municipalities making up the Capital Regional District, and the Southern Gulf Islands Electoral Area (the “Service Area”).

Participating Area

4. The participating areas for the service are all those municipalities making up the Capital Regional District, and the Southern Gulf Islands Electoral Area.

Cost Recovery

5. As provided in Section 378 of the *Local Government Act*, the annual costs of providing the Service, net of grants and revenue, shall be recovered by one or more of the following:
 - (a) property value taxes imposed in accordance with Division 3 of Part 11 of the *Local Government Act*;
 - (b) fees and charges imposed under Section 397 of the *Local Government Act*;
 - (c) revenues raised by other means authorized by the *Local Government Act* or another Act;
 - (d) revenues received by way of agreement, enterprise, gift, grant, or otherwise.

Cost Apportionment

6. The annual costs for the service, net of grants and other revenues, shall be apportioned among the participating areas by dividing the costs into two equal parts: One part apportioned on the basis of population, where population is the total population estimate of the Service Area per participating area as determined annually by the Regional District, and one part apportioned on the basis of assessments, where assessments are the annual converted value of land and improvements in the participating areas.

Maximum Requisition

7. In accordance with Section 339(1)(e) of the *Local Government Act*, the maximum amount that may be requisitioned annually for the cost of the Service is the greater of:
 - (a) Three Million dollars (\$3,000,000); or
 - (b) An amount equal to the amount that could be raised by a property value tax rate of \$0.0171 per ONE THOUSAND DOLLARS (\$1,000.00) that, when applied to the net taxable value of land and improvements in the Service Area, will yield the maximum amount that may be requisitioned for the Service.

Transition of Services

8. Despite section 7, if the services established by Bylaw No. 2587, "Royal Theatre Local Service Area Establishment Bylaw No. 1, 1998", and Bylaw No. 2685, "McPherson Playhouse Local Service Area Establishment Bylaw No. 1, 1999" are still operating and are used to requisition funds, the requisition for this service shall be reduced in proportion by the amounts requisitioned under the respective services under Bylaw No. 2587 and Bylaw No. 2685. For clarity, should services under Bylaw No. 2587 or 2685 continue to be operated and no requisition of funds occurs under the respective service, the maximum requisition for this service shall not be reduced.

Agreement

9. The Capital Regional District may enter into agreements with one or more organizations to

operate performing arts facilities with regional impact held or operated by the service.

Citation

10. This Bylaw may be cited as the “Performing Arts Facilities Service Establishing Bylaw No. 1, 2025”.

READ A FIRST TIME THIS	8 th	day of	October,	2025
READ A SECOND TIME THIS	8 th	day of	October,	2025
READ A THIRD TIME THIS	8 th	day of	October,	2025
APPROVED BY THE INSPECTOR OF MUNICIPALITIES THIS	21 st	day of	Janauary	2026
APPROVED BY PARTICIPANTS BY ALTERNATIVE APPROVAL PROCESS	th	day of		20__
ADOPTED THIS	th	day of		20__

CHAIR

CORPORATE OFFICER

Appendix B

Synopsis of Bylaw No. 4704, “Performing Arts Facilities Service Establishing Bylaw No. 1, 2025”

Bylaw No. 4704 would establish a new Performing Arts Facilities Service for the purpose of operating and funding regional performing arts facilities within the Capital Regional District. This includes planning, development, capital improvements, theatre rental subsidies, and operating costs. The funding, operating, equipping, and maintaining of the Royal Theatre and McPherson Playhouse services will transition to the new Performing Arts Facilities Service over time. The new service will also provide contributions to other performing arts facilities with regional impact.

The maximum amount that can be requisitioned annually for the service is three million dollars (\$3,000,000) or an amount equal to the amount that could be raised by a property value tax rate of \$0.0171 per one thousand dollars (\$1,000) of the net taxable value of the land and improvements within the service area.

Participating area approval for Bylaw No. 4704 will be obtained for the entire proposed Performing Arts Facilities Service area by Alternative Approval Process. The Alternative Approval Process applies to all electors in the **Southern Gulf Islands Electoral Area and all municipalities of the Capital Regional District, including Central Saanich, Colwood, Esquimalt, Highlands, Langford, Metchosin, North Saanich, Oak Bay, Saanich, Sidney, Sooke, Victoria, and View Royal.**

Please note that this synopsis of Bylaw No. 4704 is not intended to be or understood as an interpretation of the bylaw. A copy of the complete bylaw and this notice may be viewed at Capital Regional District offices located at 625 Fisgard Street, Victoria, BC from 8:30 am to 4:30 pm, Monday to Friday (excluding statutory holidays). The bylaw may also be viewed at www.crd.ca/theatres-aap.

**NOTICE TO ELECTORS
WITHIN THE CAPITAL REGIONAL DISTRICT**

Alternative approval process for Bylaw No. 4704 to establish a Performing Arts Facilities Service for all those municipalities making up the Capital Regional District, and the Southern Gulf Islands Electoral Area.

Notice is hereby given that the Board of Directors of the Capital Regional District ("CRD") proposes to adopt Bylaw No. 4704, *"Performing Arts Facilities Service Establishing Bylaw No. 1, 2025"*. The proposed Performing Arts Facilities Service area applies all those municipalities making up the Capital Regional District and the Southern Gulf Islands Electoral Area.

Bylaw No. 4704 would establish a new Performing Arts Facilities Service for the purpose of operating and funding regional performing arts facilities within the Capital Regional District. This includes planning, development, capital improvements, theatre rental subsidies, and operating costs. The funding, operating, equipping, and maintaining of the Royal Theatre and McPherson Playhouse services will transition to the new Performing Arts Facilities Service over time. The new service will also provide contributions to other performing arts facilities with regional impact.

The maximum amount that can be requisitioned annually for the service is three million dollars (\$3,000,000) or an amount equal to the amount that could be raised by a property value tax rate of \$0.0171 per one thousand dollars (\$1,000) of the net taxable value of the land and improvements within the service area.

Participating area approval for Bylaw No. 4704 will be obtained for the entire proposed Performing Arts Facilities Service area by Alternative Approval Process. The Alternative Approval Process applies to all electors in the **Southern Gulf Islands Electoral Area and all municipalities of the Capital Regional District, including Central Saanich, Colwood, Esquimalt, Highlands, Langford, Metchosin, North Saanich, Oak Bay, Saanich, Sidney, Sooke, Victoria, and View Royal**.

Please note that this synopsis of Bylaw No. 4704 is not intended to be or understood as an interpretation of the bylaw. A copy of the complete bylaw and this notice may be viewed at Capital Regional District offices located at 625 Fisgard Street, Victoria, BC from 8:30 am to 4:30 pm, Monday to Friday (excluding statutory holidays). The bylaw may also be viewed at www.crd.ca/theatres-aap.

Take further notice that the CRD may proceed with Bylaw No. 4704 unless at least 31,574 electors (constituting 10% of eligible electors), within the proposed Performing Arts Facilities Service area, object by signing the elector response form, that the Board must obtain the assent of the electors by way of an assent vote (referendum) before proceeding to adopt Bylaw No. 4704.

The elector response must be in the form as established by the CRD and is available from the CRD on request or from the CRD website at www.crd.ca/theatres-aap. The only persons entitled to sign elector response forms are electors of the area to which the alternative approval process opportunity applies. The alternative approval process applies to the electors in the **Southern Gulf Islands Electoral Area and all municipalities of the Capital Regional District, including Central Saanich, Colwood, Esquimalt, Highlands, Langford, Metchosin, North Saanich, Oak Bay, Saanich, Sidney, Sooke, Victoria, and View Royal**.

The deadline for submitting signed elector response forms, in relation to Bylaw No. 4704, to the CRD is **4:30 pm on Monday, March 30, 2026**. Forms must be received by the deadline to be counted. A copy of the elector response form may be downloaded from: www.crd.ca/theatres-aap.

To obtain an elector response form, or for questions about the alternative approval process, contact Legislative Services, 625 Fisgard Street, Victoria, BC, V8W 1R7, email legserv@crd.bc.ca, telephone 250.360.3642 or toll free 1.800.663.4425 from 8:30 am to 4:30 pm, Monday to Friday (excluding statutory holidays).

Questions regarding Bylaw No. 4704 may be directed to Chris Gilpin, Manager, Arts and Culture Support Service, 625 Fisgard Street, Victoria, BC, 250.360.3205, cgilpin@crd.bc.ca, from 8:30 am to 4:30 pm, Monday to Friday (excluding statutory holidays) from the date of this notice until March 30, 2026.

Qualifications for Resident and Non-Resident Property Electors

Resident Elector: You are entitled to submit an elector response form as a Resident Elector if you are 18 years or older on the date of submission of the elector response form, are a Canadian citizen, have resided in British Columbia for at least 6 months and currently reside in the proposed Performing Arts Facilities Service area (**i.e. Southern Gulf Islands Electoral Area, Central Saanich, Colwood, Esquimalt, Highlands, Langford, Metchosin, North Saanich, Oak Bay, Saanich, Sidney, Sooke, Victoria, and View Royal**) prior to signing the elector response form.

Non-Resident Property Elector: You may submit an elector response form as a Non-Resident Property Elector if you are 18 years or older on the date of submission of the elector response form, are a Canadian citizen, have resided in British Columbia for 6 months, have owned and held registered title to property in the proposed Performing Arts Facilities Service area (**i.e. Southern Gulf Islands Electoral Area, Central Saanich, Colwood, Esquimalt, Highlands, Langford, Metchosin, North Saanich, Oak Bay, Saanich, Sidney, Sooke, Victoria, and View Royal**) for 30 days and do NOT qualify as a Resident Elector. If there is more than one registered owner of the property (either as joint tenants or tenants in common) only one individual may, with the written consent of the majority, submit an elector response form.

Elector response forms, a copy of Bylaw No. 4704, and a copy of this Notice may be inspected during regular office hours, 8:30 am to 4:30 pm, Monday to Friday (excluding statutory holidays) from the date of this notice until **4:30 pm on Monday, March 30, 2026** at the following CRD locations:

- CRD Headquarters, 625 Fisgard Street, Victoria, BC
- on the CRD website: www.crd.ca/theatres-aap

Given under my hand at Victoria, BC this 17th day of February 2026.

Kristen Morley
Corporate Officer

Alternative Approval Process for Bylaw No. 4704

By completing this elector response form **I oppose** the Capital Regional District's intention to adopt **Bylaw No. 4704, "Performing Arts Facilities Service Establishing Bylaw No. 1, 2025"** to authorize the establishment of a new Performing Arts Facilities Service for the purpose of operating and funding regional performing arts facilities, unless a vote is held.

Please print using BLOCK LETTERS

Full name of elector: _____
(one form per person)

Choose one (see next page for eligibility requirements):

I am a resident elector

Residential Address: _____
Street Name Municipality/Electoral Area Postal Code

I am a non-resident property elector in the Capital Regional District who lives in another community in **British Columbia** and owns property at the below address (see reverse for eligibility requirements):

Street Name Municipality/Electoral Area Postal Code

Signature: _____

****A person must not sign more than one elector response form****

The deadline for submitting this elector response form to the **Capital Regional District (CRD)** is:
4:30 p.m. on Monday, March 30, 2026.

Address: c/o Legislative Services, CRD, 625 Fisgard Street, Victoria, BC, V8W 1R7

Phone: 250.360.3642

E-mail: LegServ@crd.bc.ca (please scan a legible signed copy as PDF)

The Capital Regional District may obtain elector approval for Bylaw No. 4704, **"Performing Arts Facilities Service Establishing Bylaw No. 1, 2025"** unless at least 31,574 electors (constituting 10% of eligible electors) within the proposed Performing Arts Facilities Service area sign and submit a completed copy of this elector response form to the Capital Regional District by the deadline.

Additional information can be found on the next page of this form about the subject of this alternative approval process as well as elector qualifications.

Bylaw No. 4704 – AAP Information Sheet

Bylaw No. 4704 would establish a new Performing Arts Facilities Service for the purpose of operating and funding regional performing arts facilities within the Capital Regional District. This includes planning, development, capital improvements, theatre rental subsidies, and operating costs. The funding, operating, equipping, and maintaining of the Royal Theatre and McPherson Playhouse services will transition to the new Performing Arts Facilities Service over time. The new service will also provide contributions to other performing arts facilities with regional impact.

Participating area approval for Bylaw No. 4704 will be obtained for the entire proposed Performing Arts Facilities Service area by Alternative Approval Process. The Alternative Approval Process applies to all electors in the **Southern Gulf Islands Electoral Area and all municipalities of the Capital Regional District, including Central Saanich, Colwood, Esquimalt, Highlands, Langford, Metchosin, North Saanich, Oak Bay, Saanich, Sidney, Sooke, Victoria, and View Royal.**

Please note that this synopsis of Bylaw No. 4704 is not intended to be or understood as an interpretation of the bylaw. A copy of the complete bylaw and this notice may be viewed at Capital Regional District offices located at 625 Fisgard Street, Victoria, BC from 8:30 am to 4:30 pm, Monday to Friday (excluding statutory holidays). The bylaw may also be viewed at www.crd.ca/theatres-aap.

Additional Information About Elector Eligibility

In order to sign an elector response form, a person must either be a resident elector or a non-resident property elector.

<p>A resident elector is an individual who is entitled to sign an elector response form during an AAP by virtue of living within that jurisdiction. <i>When signing an elector response form</i>, a resident elector must:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• be 18 years of age or older;• be a Canadian citizen;• have been a resident of British Columbia for at least six months;• be a resident of the jurisdiction (e.g., municipality or electoral area);• live in the proposed Performing Arts Facilities Service area (i.e. Southern Gulf Islands Electoral Area, Central Saanich, Colwood, Esquimalt, Highlands, Langford, Metchosin, North Saanich, Oak Bay, Saanich, Sidney, Sooke, Victoria, and View Royal); and,• not be disqualified under the <i>Local Government Act</i>, or any other enactment from voting in a local election or be otherwise disqualified by law.	<p>A non-resident property elector* is an individual that does not live in a jurisdiction and who is entitled to sign an elector response form during an AAP by virtue of owning property in that jurisdiction. <i>When signing an elector response form</i>, a non-resident property elector must:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• be at least 18 years of age;• be a Canadian citizen;• have been a resident in British Columbia for at least six months;• be a registered owner of property in the proposed Performing Arts Facilities Service area (i.e. Southern Gulf Islands Electoral Area, Central Saanich, Colwood, Esquimalt, Highlands, Langford, Metchosin, North Saanich, Oak Bay, Saanich, Sidney, Sooke, Victoria, and View Royal); for at least 30 days; and,• not be disqualified under the <i>Local Government Act</i>, or any other enactment from voting in a local election or be otherwise disqualified by law.
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*Notes for non-resident property elector(s):

- Section 86(7) of the *Community Charter* requires the elector's full name and residential address or the address of the property in relation to which the person is entitled to register as a non-resident property elector in order for this response form to be counted.
- Only one non-resident property elector may sign an elector response form per property, regardless of how many people own the property; and, that owner must have the written consent of a majority of the other property owner(s) to sign the response form on their behalf. Property owned in whole or in part by a corporation does not qualify under the non-resident property elector provisions.

AAP Communication Channels for Bylaw No. 4704

Publisher	Channel	Area	Cost	Publish Date
Times Colonist	Print	Regional	\$1,000	February 17
Black Press	Print (Sooke News Mirror)	Regional (weekly)	\$679	February 18 – 19
Black Press	Corresponding Websites	Regional		February 18 – 19
Mayneliner	Print	SGI Monthly Edition	\$119	March 1 st week
CRD	CRD Website	Regional	n/a	February 17
Meta, LinkedIN	FB, LinkedIN	Regional	n/a	February 17
CRD	Notice Board	Fisgard - Front Lobby	n/a	February 17
CRD	Notice Board	Galiano-South Galiano Community Hall	n/a	Week of February 17
CRD	Notice Board	Galiano- Corner Store, 61 Georgeson Bay	n/a	Week of February 17
CRD	Notice Board	Galiano- Islands Trust/CRD office notice board	n/a	Week of February 17
CRD	Notice Board	Pender - Community Hall 4418 Bedwell Harbour Road	n/a	Week of February 17
CRD	Notice Board	Pender - Medicine Beach - 5827 Schooner Way	n/a	Week of February 17
CRD	Notice Board	Saturna - The Point Store Complex - 100 East Point Road	n/a	Week of February 17
CRD	Notice Board	Saturna - The General Store complex - 101 Narvaez Bay Road	n/a	Week of February 17
CRD	Notice Board	Mayne - Mayne Island Community Centre - 493 Felix Jack Road	n/a	Week of February 17
CRD	Email Subscribers	<i>Regional (Public Notices & Get Involved)</i>	n/a	February 17
Total			\$1798	

Frequently Asked Questions

Performing Arts Facilities Service AAP

Capital Regional District | February 2026

Why is a Performing Arts Facilities Service needed?

- The proposed Performing Arts Facilities Service aims to address several long-standing challenges:
 - Current funding framework for regional theatres, created in late 1990s, is outdated and has significant limitations hindering the maintenance and operation of these facilities;
 - Lack of regional coordination in planning and funding regional theatres has resulted in unequal access to high-quality performing arts experiences across the region;
 - High theatre rental costs limit access for local arts groups, creating affordability barriers that prevent full usage despite high demand;
 - Unequal cost-sharing among jurisdictions despite widespread benefits across the region; and
 - Absence of a regional theatre in the rapidly growing West Shore area.
- The proposed new service addresses the above challenges with a new funding model that balances inclusivity, financial sustainability, and responsiveness to community needs.

What would the new service do?

- The proposed Performing Arts Facilities Service is designed to provide operating and capital funding to the capital region's three regional theatres: the Charlie White Theatre (located in the Mary Winspear Centre), the Royal Theatre, and the McPherson Playhouse. It will also help to develop a new regional theatre on the West Shore, which has been identified as a gap in the region's arts ecosystem.
- If approved, the new service will provide support to each facility through three core functions:
 - **Plan:** grant funding for feasibility studies, consultation, business plans, design work, and construction planning related to the development of future regional theatres
 - **Develop:** funding for maintenance and renovation of regional theatres, and additional resources dedicated to securing infrastructure funding from the provincial and federal governments
 - **Fund:** funding to support ongoing operations of regional theatres, and Theatre Rental Grants, which are subsidies for non-profit local arts groups to present their work at regional theatres

How much will this new service cost?

- The estimated cost of the new service is \$2.3 million, absorbing the \$1.35 million budget of the current services (Royal Theatre Service and McPherson Playhouse Service), and adding approximately \$1 million in scaled up support through new and expanded functionality, including Planning Grants, Theatre Rental

Grants and support for operating and maintenance of the Charlie White Theatre in the Mary Winspear Centre. The median cost per household of the new service is estimated at \$12.43 when it would be launched in 2027.

- Costs would grow gradually to support the operations and maintenance of performing arts facilities with regional impact, as determined by the criteria in the bylaw.
- Any costs related to this service would go through the CRD's annual planning process and must be approved by the CRD Board as part of the CRD Financial Plan Bylaw.

What is the maximum amount which can be requisitioned for this service?

- The service establishment bylaw sets the maximum amount that can be collected by requisition annually as either a fixed amount (\$3 million) or a property value tax amount (\$0.0171 per \$1,000). This amount represents the long-term capacity for the service, not the proposed budget.
- The proposed budget in 2027 totals \$2.3 million (including the existing and approved costs of \$1.35 million for the Royal Theatre and McPherson Playhouse).
- The remaining requisition amount is for long-term service growth at the discretion of the CRD Board, and there are no plans to reach the proposed maximum requisition.

What services would be moved into the Performing Arts Facilities Service?

- The bylaw enables the new service to absorb all the costs and functions of two existing CRD services: the Royal Theatre Service and the McPherson Playhouse Service. This includes the operating, funding, equipping, and maintaining of the Royal Theatre and McPherson Playhouse.
- The CRD will continue to be the steward of both the Royal Theatre (owned by the CRD) and the McPherson Playhouse (owned by the City of Victoria). The Saanich Peninsula Memorial Park Society will continue to own and operate the Charlie White Theatre in the Mary Winspear Centre and will receive support from the new service through a contribution agreement.

Who has been engaged in the development of the service?

- In 2019, the CRD Board launched the Regional Arts Facilities Select Committee to facilitate a discussion of the region's art facility needs. This committee held several public meetings and hired a consultant firm to engage interest holders across the region in gathering input about the current state of arts facilities as well as possible ways forward.
 - The consultant conducted 17 consultation sessions with the public and interest holders, as well as an online survey that received over 600 responses.
 - In December 2020, the report "A Public Conversation about Performing Arts Facilities in the CRD" was published along with all the collected data.
 - In 2021-22, the CRD Board examined the recommendation and referred the issue to the strategic planning sessions of the next term.

- In 2024, the CRD Board relaunched the Performing Arts Facilities Select Committee with a mandate to hold discussions on the region's performing arts facilities and provide options related to scaling up regional support for performing arts facilities.
 - The select committee reviewed five options for scaling up support and hired a consultant to engage the public and interest holders in a cost-benefit analysis of these options.
 - From January – May 2025 the consultant undertook extensive community engagement, including roundtable meetings with theatre operators, local arts groups, commercial presenters, educational groups, and other key interest holders.
- Staff will continue to engage with the local arts community, local government partners, the non-profit organizations that operate the regional theatres, groups that are looking to develop new regional theatres, and other interested and affected parties to implement new or expanded services successfully.

What is an Alternative Approval Process (AAP)?

- An Alternative Approval Process is a form of approval that allows electors to indicate whether they are against a local government proposal moving forward. Electors do this by submitting a completed elector response form to the CRD. If 10% or more of the eligible electors submit response forms in opposition, the CRD must either proceed to assent voting (referendum) within 80 days or reconsider the proposed action.

Who would participate in the service? To which residents does this AAP apply?

- The proposed sub-regional service area applies to the Southern Gulf Islands Electoral Area and all municipalities of the Capital Regional District, including Central Saanich, Colwood, Esquimalt, Highlands, Langford, Metchosin, North Saanich, Oak Bay, Saanich, Sidney, Sooke, Victoria, and View Royal. The Alternative Approval Process applies to electors within those jurisdictions.
- The service area does not include the Salt Spring Island or Juan de Fuca electoral areas, and therefore the APP does not apply to electors in those two jurisdictions either.

Why does the CRD need elector approval?

- As per the Local Government Act, the CRD must receive the electors' approval before it can adopt a bylaw to establish a service levy or incur long-term debt.

What is the expected approval timeline? When would the AAP start? When would the service be established?

- The anticipated timing for the Performing Arts Facilities Service AAP is as follows:
 - October 8, 2025 – 1st, 2nd, 3rd reading of Bylaw 4704 by the CRD Board, with direction to proceed towards an AAP
 - January 21, 2026 – Bylaw received approval of Inspector of Municipalities
 - February 11, 2026 – AAP requirements reviewed by the CRD Board
 - February 17, 2026 – AAP response period begins
 - March 30, 2026 – AAP response period ends
 - April 2026 – AAP results delivered and final adoption of bylaw (if applicable)

What if elector approval is not obtained?

- If 10% or more of the eligible electors submit elector response forms by the AAP deadline, the CRD Board will have two choices. It may proceed with assent voting (referendum) within 80 days or put the matter on hold and consider alternatives.

Where can I find more information on the AAP?

- For more information on the Alternative Approval Process (AAP), who can participate, where to find a response form, and how forms may be submitted, please visit www.crd.ca/theatres-aap.
- Learn more about the Alternate Approval Process for local government on the Government of British Columbia's website: www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/governments/local-governments/governance-powers/consent-approval-electors/approval-of-the-electors/alternative-approval-process.