April 11, 2023

Ref: 272042

Mark Pendergraft, Chair
and Members of the Board
Regional District of Okanagan-Similkameen
101 Martin St
Penticton BC V2A 5J9

Dear Chair Pendergraft and Board Members:

It was a pleasure to meet with you in Oliver during my tour of the Kootenay-Okanagan region earlier this year. I am pleased to provide a response to the November 17, 2022, Regional District of Okanagan-Similkameen Board resolution, confirming your interest in moving forward with governance options for Electoral Area 'D'.

The Ministry of Municipal Affairs has received and reviewed the draft terms of reference for the proposed Area D incorporation study, which outlines the roles and responsibilities of the Study Committee, Regional District, and the Province of British Columbia. I am satisfied with the key milestones, objectives, and scope of work that is outlined.

Restructure planning grants represent part of the ministry's commitment to assist communities in studying the possible restructuring of local government. As such, I am pleased to advise that I have approved these restructure planning grants, in the total amount of $150,000, broken down as follows:

Grant Purpose	Project Commitment #	Grant Amount
Incorporation Impact Analysis	51RS2309	$60,000
Community Engagement	51RS2310	$60,000
Roads Assessment	51RS2311	$30,000

The purpose of these grants is to fund a detailed overview of the incorporation option, including an estimate of financial impacts, a full community discussion, and an independent partial road assessment of provincial roads. The intention is that this work will determine if there is sufficient community interest in proceeding to a vote on municipal incorporation.

Once the terms of reference are finalized, your administration will receive a letter specifying the terms and conditions of the grants, as well as timelines for deliverables and payments.

…/2

Ministry of Municipal Affairs Office of the Minister

Mailing Address:
PO Box 9056 Stn Prov Govt
Victoria BC V8W 9E2
Phone: 250 387-2283
Fax: 250 387-4312

Location:
Parliament Buildings
Victoria BC V8V 1X4

http://www.gov.bc.ca/muni

Your contact for the project is David Van Ommen, Senior Planning Analyst, Governance and Structure. Mr. Van Ommen can be reached by telephone at: 778 698-3214, or by email at: David.VanOmmen@gov.bc.ca.

The Province of British Columbia is pleased to assist with this project, as it will give residents within the proposed municipal boundary the opportunity to review and discuss the impacts of incorporation.

Sincerely,



Anne Kang
Minister

pc: Matt Taylor, Director, Electoral Area 'D', Regional District of Okanagan-Similkameen
Christy Malden, Corporate Officer, Regional District of Okanagan-Similkameen
David Van Ommen, Senior Planning Analyst, Governance and Structure Branch