REGIONAL DISTRICT OF OKANAGAN-SIMILKAMEEN

Electoral Area "D" Service and Boundary Configuration Study Committee Agenda

Wednesday, September 8, 2021
6:00 pm

Via WebEx: (ADD LINK)

PURPOSE From 6:00 pm to 7:30 pm on Wednesday September 8, 2021, the Electoral Area "D" Service and Boundary Configuration Study Committee will meet as part of the initial phase of the study. The Committee will have an opportunity to review proposed Committee 'speaking notes' prepared to assist the Committee members in discussing the study, as well as graphics regarding the Provincial restructure study process, as well as discuss practices for preparing and approving Committee communications.

A. HOUSEKEEPING

- This meeting is being recorded
- Ensure to mute yourself except when speaking to reduce sound feedback.
- Format for including the EA Director/Alternate input on agenda items

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B. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

RECOMMENDATION 1
THAT the Agenda for the September 8, 2021 Electoral Area "D" Service and Boundary Configuration Committee be approved

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C. RECEIPT OF THE AUGUST 18, 2021 MEETING MINUTES

RECOMMENDATION 2
THAT the minutes of the August 18, 2021 Electoral Area "D" Service and Boundary Configuration Committee be received.

D. CONSULTANT - Allan Neilson and Sherry Hurst

- The consultants will review the draft speaking notes with the Committee
- The consultants will explain the provincial restructure study and incorporation study process with the Committee, and present the draft flow charts representing the Provincial restructure study process as well as the incorporation study process

- The consultants will discuss a process for preparing and approving Committee communications, including social media posts
- The consultants will provide the list of Area D services, and discuss a schedule of Fact Sheets to address each of the services

E. QUESTION PERIOD

F. ADJOURNMENT

ATTACHMENTS

The following documents are included in the agenda package for the Committee's review:

- August 18, 2021, Committee Meeting Minutes
- Draft Committee Speaking Notes
- Draft Study Flow Charts
- Copy of Skaha Matters September August 21 and September 21 advertisements



The Electoral Area 'D' Service & Boundary Configuration Study Is Now Underway!

Get Informed. Get Involved. Have Your Say.

For full details, regular updates, to ask questions, or to join committee meetings, please visit our website at

rdosregionalconnections.ca/area-d-boundary-study

To reach the RDOS, please call 250.492.0237

The purpose of the study is to analyze services, with public engagement in the RDOS Electoral Area 'D' communities on services and opinions on incorporation, and to develop and test potential municipal boundary configurations in Area 'D'.

A committee of 10 citizens from Electoral Area 'D' has been formed to guide the study. The committee's role is to be an objective fact-finding body, ensuring that the study and engagement with the community is neutral and balanced.

Committee meetings are open to the public and are held online via Webex, pending changes to COVID-19 restrictions, on the 2nd & 4th Wednesdays each month from 6-7:30 pm. For details on joining, please see website above in red.

The Committee and RDOS look forward to working with the hired consultants, Neilson Strategies Inc. and Leftside Partners Inc, as they carry out the study. Regular updates will be provided monthly in Skaha Matters.



The Electoral Area 'D' Service & Boundary Configuration Study

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The purpose of this study is to analyze services, with public engagement in the RDOS Area 'D' communities on services and opinions on incorporation, and to develop potential municipal boundary configurations. The first step is the preparation of "Fact Sheets" for the Area 'D' services detailing what services are provided, at what cost, how decisions are made, and high-level impacts of incorporation on each service. This information will be available online and shared with the public in a mail-out this winter.

Formal public engagement will begin in 2022, but you can be involved now by:

1. Attending monthly committee meetings (6 pm 2nd Wednesday each month).
2. Reviewing information on the RDOS Regional Connections website and registering for updates.
3. Submitting questions to the RDOS Regional Connections website for answering.

For factual information about the Study, go to the RDOS Regional Connections website. The website has information compiled for, and approved by, the Study Committee. On the site, residents can submit questions and answers will be posted from the RDOS, study consultants, and the Province, where applicable.

PURPOSE

The purpose of the study is:

- to document and assess the current state of local governance and service delivery in Electoral Area D of the Regional District of Okanagan Similkameen
- to understand the concerns and interests of Area D residents with respect to governance and service delivery
- to identify preferred boundary configurations for any subsequent incorporation study

WHAT WILL THE STUDY INVOLVE

- The study is one phase in the Province's approach to investigating the feasibility of and community interest in incorporation. This phase precedes a full incorporation study. The Province considers funding incorporation studies where there is a demonstrated interest and appetite for a change in governance to address servicing and/or governance issues. This study is therefore a preliminary step intended to investigate the appetite for changes to services and governance, and to recommend some boundary alternatives, should an incorporation study be desired as a next step.
- The study will provide information on what services are provided, who they are provided by, and what they cost, in the various communities that comprise Electoral Area D
- The study will engage with Area D residents regarding existing services and governance structure, and seek to identify concerns, issues, successes and challenges.
- The study will outline, at a high level, some of the key changes that would be anticipated as a result of incorporation – for governance, services, and finance.
- The study will provide opportunities for residents to learn about high level impacts of incorporation, what incorporation involves, and what an incorporation study would entail, if the RDOS and Province proceed with investigating incorporation further.
- The study will analyze different boundary options, based on feedback from the community, as well as some technical inputs, such as land uses, assessment data, infrastructure and services.

PROCESS

The study has four stages:

- The first stage is the preparation of "Fact Sheets" for the Area D services detailing what services are provided, at what cost, how decisions are made, and high-level impacts of incorporation on each service. The detailed sheets will be reviewed and finalized with the Committee and posted on the RDOS Regional Connections website. An overview of the sheets will be mailed to residents in the winter.
- The second stage will focus on communicating the information to the community and engaging with residents about their services and governance through neighbourhood meetings, as well as two panel sessions to learn from other communities' experiences.

- The third stage of the study will involve some technical analysis of boundary options. The analysis will result in some boundary scenarios that will be shared with residents in a mailout and survey to gauge community preferences.
- The final stage will be the preparation of a final report which will include recommendations on boundary configurations as well as a synopsis of the service findings, copies of each of the updated Fact Sheets, and a summary of the outcomes from the public engagement process.

ENGAGEMENT

- Five neighbourhood meetings and two panel discussions are scheduled for early in 2022.

Other opportunities to become involved and stay informed throughout the process include:

- Attending monthly committee meetings (2nd Wednesday of each month)
- Reviewing information on the RDOS Regional Connections website and registering for updates
- Submitting questions to the Regional Connections site

The RDOS Regional Connections website is the definitive source of factual information about the study, and will have a Q&A portion that is updated regularly. Committee members can encourage residents who have questions to pose their questions on the website.

TIMELINES

Some of the project's key milestones include:

- Committee inaugural meeting – May 2021
- Consultants engaged – July 2021
- Mailout on services – End of 2021
- Neighbourhood meetings – January/February
- Boundary Options mailout and survey – spring 2022
- Final Report – end of May 2022

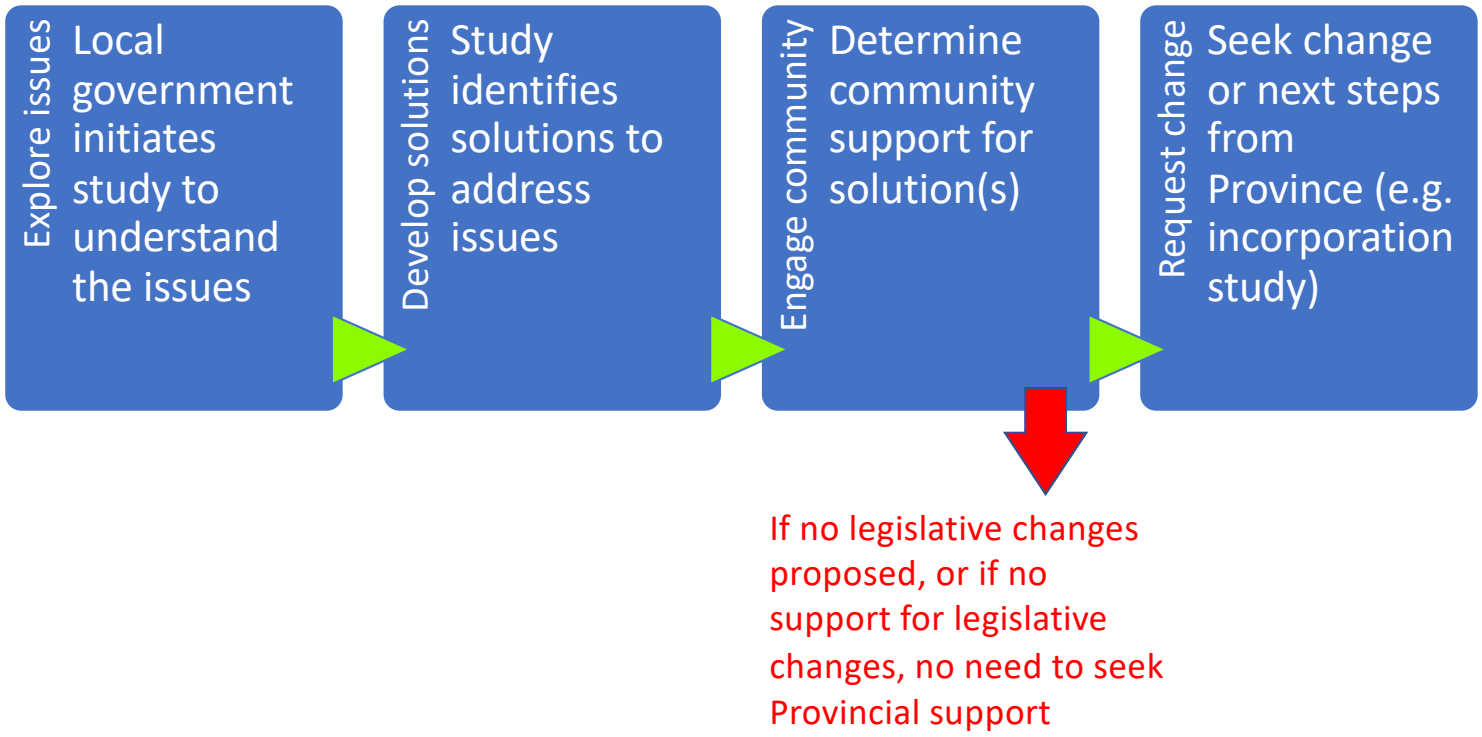
COMMITTEE

- The Study Committee was formed in spring of 2021 and held its inaugural meeting on May 27, 2021.
- The Study Committee is comprised of 10 citizens from across Electoral Area D.
- The Area D Director Ron Obirek and Alternate Director Jim D'Andrea are ex-officio members of the Committee, and do not vote on any Committee decisions.
- The Committee role is to ensure that the study is conducted fairly, objectively and transparently, that the information is accurate, and that the engagement is neutral and balanced.

MORE INFORMATION

- For further information, please direct residents to the RDOS Regional Connections website, www.rdosregionalconnections.ca
- Residents are welcome to attend the Study Committee meetings held the second Wednesday of every month from 6:00pm to 7:30pm. These meetings are open to the public for viewing and include an open question and answer period at the end.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT RESTRUCTURE PROCESS



LOCAL GOVERNMENT INCORPORATION PROCESS (PHASE 2)

