



Board of Directors
Alberni-Clayoquot Regional District
3008 Fifth Ave.,
Port Alberni, BC V9Y 2E3

January 30, 2026

Re: Request for Regional District Involvement – Replacement of ADSS Turf Field

Dear ACRD Board of Directors,

I am writing on behalf of the Board of Education of School District No. 70 (Pacific Rim), to request that the Board of Directors of the Alberni-Clayoquot Regional District (ACRD) consider involvement in the replacement of the artificial turf field, located at the Alberni District Secondary School here in Port Alberni.

While the field supports curricular and extracurricular programming for students, it also functions as a significant community recreation asset and is heavily used outside of school hours by a wide range of community organizations and residents, including many users from beyond the immediate school catchment and municipal boundaries.

Field Condition and Board Direction

The Board of Education has been advised that the ADSS turf field has reached end-of-life and continues to deteriorate. Concerns regarding the field's condition were raised at the September 2025 Finance and Operations Committee meeting, and the School District has been actively advancing planning and stakeholder engagement since that time.

School District staff have met with user organizations to outline the urgent safety and replacement need, have confirmed strong community reliance on the facility, and have established a Working Group co-led by the school's Principal and Athletic Director to explore funding strategies, partnership models, and governance options.

The School District completed a G-Max safety compliance test in January 2026, and has an additional test scheduled for November 2026. Community partners have been advised that access to the turf will be dependent on the field meeting annual safety testing and remaining in safe operating condition.

At its December 16, 2025 Public Board Meeting, the Board of Education passed a motion confirming that, if by December 31, 2026 a minimum of \$1,000,000 has not been collectively raised by the School District and participating community groups/organizations, and a sustainability plan has not been presented to the Board, the Operations Department will initiate planning to replace the existing surface with a non-irrigated natural grass field, with limited continued use of the turf potentially extending into Spring 2027, subject to safety.

User groups have expressed willingness to contribute toward a replacement plan through adjusted fee structures, fundraising, sponsorships, and shared governance.

Request to the Regional District

Given the scale of community usage and the regional benefit provided by this facility, the Board of Education respectfully requests that the ACRD consider:

1. Recognizing the ADSS turf field as a regional recreation asset;
2. Including the ADSS turf field within the Regional District's applicable service area(s), where feasible; and
3. Incorporating the ADSS turf field replacement into current and/or future Regional District workplans and capital planning priorities.

The School District is also in discussions with City of Port Alberni representatives and other stakeholders regarding coordinated planning and shared investment for replacement.

Next Steps

We would welcome the opportunity to meet with Regional District representatives to discuss service area considerations, potential partnership models, and how this project may align with Regional District priorities.

Thank you so much for your time and consideration. Please don't hesitate to reach out if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Cyr', with a horizontal line extending to the right.

Cynthia Orr, Board Chair
Board of Education
Pacific Rim School District
www.sd70.bc.ca