



News Release

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ACRD Financial planning begins for 2023-2027

ALBERNI-CLAYOQUOT REGIONAL DISTRICT – The Alberni-Clayoquot Regional District (ACRD) began its 2023-2027 financial planning process at the Committee of the Whole meeting today.

Each year, the ACRD updates the five-year financial plan, which represents the operational and capital requirements of the year. The ACRD is a growing organization that continues to increase the service levels of the many functions it provides as well as explore new services that respond to changing regional needs. The service level changes have been a result of both regulation and legislation changes, as well as the implementation of the ACRD's Strategic Plan.

"Thursday's presentation is just the beginning of an extensive process that will take place over the coming weeks," explains John Jack, ACRD Chairperson. "Additional committee meetings will be held to enable further discussion regarding the many different services and components of the plan, and an open house is being held this year to allow the public to participate more in the process."

"We are focused on presenting a financial plan that balances the organization's need to address numerous legislative, service/contractual, and inflationary changes, while recognizing that we are facing a financially challenging time. Some recommended changes for 2023 are targeted at helping control costs over the subsequent four-year term," explains Teri Fong, ACRD Chief Financial Officer. "The 2023 budget is approximately \$29.6 million, which represents an increase of \$4 million over last year. This budget is supported by anticipated grant funding of \$10.3 million for operational and infrastructure projects – almost twice what was received in 2022. Maintaining an ability to effectively implement these grant funded initiatives does create significant benefit and will reduce long-term cost burdens within parts of the larger region."

The proposed \$29.6 million budget for 2023 is part of the 2023-2027 financial plan that currently includes a 14 per cent taxation increase. The taxation increase will vary jurisdiction to jurisdiction depending on the number and type of services used.

The [2023-2027 Financial Plan](#) page on the ACRD website provides all upcoming meetings and outlines the various ways the public can provide input to the plan. An open house will be held on February 13, 2023, at Cherry Creek Hall from 5-8 pm, with a presentation of the plan at 7 pm, allowing the public an opportunity to ask questions and provide input on the draft plan. The public can also provide input via email at budget@acrd.bc.ca.

- 30 -

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