



ALBERNI-CLAYOQUOT REGIONAL DISTRICT

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

March 26, 2025

Alberni-Clayoquot Regional District adopts 2025-2029 Financial Plan

ALBERNI-CLAYOQUOT REGIONAL DISTRICT – The Alberni-Clayoquot Regional District (ACRD) Board of Directors adopted the 2025-2029 Financial Plan Bylaw, at the regular meeting on March 26, 2025.

The plan is the result of significant discussion and includes financial increases targeted to address the evolving needs of our region while ensuring fiscal responsibility and sustainability. The newly adopted plan outlines a strategic approach to managing operational cost increases on key services including transit and water, maintaining current levels for most ACRD services, while also responding to updated legislation and regulation requirements through grants and partnerships. The development of this plan included multiple community meetings across the region to gather community feedback. The insights gained from these engagement sessions assist in better understanding the priorities of our residents and we appreciate all those that took time to attend.

The 2025 budget is approximately \$31 million. The financial plan includes a tax increase of 7.11 per cent, including the Regional Hospital District Annual Budget. Approximately \$11 million is budgeted for capital projects, and the ACRD anticipates 61 per cent of the funds for these projects will come from grant funding.

“The ACRD recognizes the challenging economic times we are facing and has developed this plan to ensure we can continue to provide essential services without compromising our financial stability,” explains ACRD Board Chair John Jack.

Some of the key drivers that been included in this five-year financial plan include:

- First full year of the West Coast Transit service including a transition to a BC Transit led service on March 1, 2025
- Expansion of Alberni Valley Custom Transit service by 1,300 hours per year to support additional peak weekday trips and the introduction of Saturday service
- Strengthening the Emergency Planning network in the region, including the development of an Emergency Cultural Awareness and Safety Plan, as well as a Communication and Public Notification Plan
- Official Community Plan engagement and updates for Electoral Area “C” - Long Beach and “D” - Sproat Lake
- Completion of the feasibility study regarding an alternate water supply for Beaver Creek
- Bamfield Water System replacement of the submarine line connecting East and West Bamfield
- Agricultural Water Plan Project to explore supply and distribution options in the Alberni Valley
- Continue discussions regarding governance models for the proposed Alberni Valley Aquatics Facility and a feasibility study of a renovation of the existing Echo Aquatic Centre



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- Expansion of Sproat Lake Fire Hall #3 – Harold Bishop to address safety and space concerns
- Continued advocacy for a secondary route into the Alberni Valley

The Financial Plan document summarizes each area, including potential increases in costs and taxation. The summary identifies the cost to each jurisdiction according to the services provided and the total overall requisition changes from the prior year. It also includes details on each of the service budgets. You can view this at: [2025-2029 Financial Plan](#). If you have any questions, please email budget@acrd.bc.ca.

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For more information, please contact:

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About the Alberni-Clayoquot Regional District:

Established in 1966, the Alberni–Clayoquot Regional District is in the heart of Vancouver Island, British Columbia. It encompasses more than 6,500 square kilometres, with a population of approximately 31,000. The ACRD consists of member municipalities Port Alberni, Tofino, Ucluelet, as well as Bamfield, Beaufort, Long Beach, Sproat Lake, Beaver Creek and Cherry Creek. It was also the first regional district to welcome full participation on the board from the Treaty First Nations of Huu-ay-aht First Nations, Yuuʔuʔiʔaʔ Government, Uchucklesaht Tribe Government and Toquaht Nation. The ACRD is within the territory of the Nuuchah-nulth Nations. The ACRD is governed by a fourteen-member Board of Directors that represent the member jurisdictions. The regional district offices are in Port Alberni.