

1. Title

Introduction to Regional Districts: Communities in Partnership

2. Location:

A. Campbell has copy

3. Year Published:

2005 (First Edition)

4. Brief Summary:

This booklet provides a basic explanation of what regional districts are, why they exist and how they function. British Columbia is divided into 27 regional districts comprised of municipalities and electoral areas (unincorporated communities and rural areas). These regional districts are governed by an elected Board of Directors and their basic purpose is to provide:

- Local government services to unincorporated/rural areas referred to as electoral areas.
- Sub-regional services to municipalities and electoral areas across jurisdictional boundaries.
- Regional services to the entire regional district such as:
 - General government administration
 - Electoral area planning
 - Solid waste management

The above listed regional services are mandated by law. In addition a regional district, in response to the expressed needs/wants of municipalities and electoral areas, may voluntarily provide additional services such as water, utilities, emergency planning, recreation programs etc.

The basic process in place to establish and provide a service is:

1. Raise an Idea
2. Study Feasibility
3. Develop Bylaw
4. Adopt Bylaw

The voting process to make a resolution and adopt a by-law is outlined, as well as key features of financial accountability for regional districts.

5. Opinion on Relevance to Project:

Good reference document to explain/clarify the role of the Capital Regional District and the process to follow to initiate change or establish a new service.

6. Categories Covered:

Governance Recreation Economy
 Environment Community Development

Others (Specify): Although it principally deals with governance, it could be a helpful reference to any/all of the above.

7. Reviewer:

Elisabeth Petersen