



October 13, 2016

Ref: 168929

Gail Given, Chair  
and Members of the Board  
Regional District of Central Okanagan  
1450 KLO Rd  
Kelowna BC V1W 3Z4

Dear Chair Given and Board Members:

As Minister of Community, Sport and Cultural Development and Minister responsible for TransLink, it was my pleasure to meet with your delegation during the 2016 Union of British Columbia Municipalities (UBCM) Convention, recently held in Victoria. I appreciated the opportunity to discuss, in person, the matters of importance to your community, in particular governance and service issues.

As I expressed in the meeting, there are a range of approaches to examining governance and service issues. Selecting the right approach can be critical to achieving an outcome that is sustainable and satisfactory both for the community and the local government. I am therefore pleased that the Regional District Board is giving due consideration to questions of process and scale with respect to the interest expressed by the Killiney Beach community group.

As you may know, depending on the nature of the community, the concerns it is facing and the interests of the local government, studies of governance and service issues vary significantly. For some communities, an incorporation focus makes sense; for others, approaches within the existing regional district electoral area structure are most appropriate. Given the size of the community at Killiney Beach and the lack of similar requests from other communities within the electoral areas, this study falls into the latter category.

Therefore, I believe a small-scale review, with a focus on local decision making and input into the regional district services, would be the best starting point to determine whether and where to focus any next steps. Should the Board request support for such a review, the Ministry would be happy to assist.

I understand that you have invited Marijke Edmondson, Director, Local Government Structure, to speak with you about the process and key considerations in the design of effective studies based on experience and work with other communities going through similar challenges. I trust that your staff will continue to work with her to determine a mutually convenient time and agenda for such a meeting.

It is always valuable to hear directly from local governments regarding the challenges and opportunities in your communities. I look forward to continuing a productive dialogue over the coming months.

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Ministry of Community,  
Sport and Cultural Development and  
Minister Responsible for TransLink

Office of the Minister

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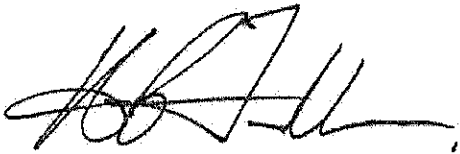
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Chair Given and Board Members  
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Thank you again to your delegation for taking the time to meet with me.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Peter Fassbender', with a horizontal line extending from the end of the signature.

Peter Fassbender  
Minister

pc: The Honourable Christy Clark, MLA  
Westside–Kelowna  
and Premier

The Honourable Norm Letnick, MLA  
Kelowna – Lake Country  
and Minister of Agriculture

The Honourable Steve Thomson, MLA  
Kelowna–Mission  
and Minister of Forests, Lands and Natural Resource Operations

Dan Ashton, MLA  
Penticton

Marijke Edmondson  
Director  
Governance and Structure  
Local Government Division