



REPORT

To: Chair and Directors

Report Number: ADM-BRD-397

From: Shawn Dahlen, Chief Administrative Officer

Date: April 20, 2023

Subject: Land Acknowledgement Consultation

RECOMMENDATION: [Corporate Unweighted]

That the Regional Board authorize the Chair and Vice Chair to consult with Treaty 8 representatives and SCION Strategies Ltd. , to discuss and inform a potential land acknowledgement statement for the Peace River Regional District.

BACKGROUND/RATIONALE:

Treaty 8 is the largest encompassing land mass at 840,000 square kilometers, and includes lands in northeastern British Columbia, northern Alberta, northwestern Saskatchewan and southern portions of the Northwest Territories.

Currently, Treaty 8 encompasses 39 First Nation communities, including 23 in Alberta, 3 in Saskatchewan, 6 in the Northwest Territories and 8 in British Columbia.

The Peace River Regional District (PRRD) lands are situated on Treaty 8 traditional territories, and as the regional local government body, it has a responsibility to consult and engage with signatories of the Treaty. The PRRD feels the process of developing a potential land acknowledgement statement needs to be in collaboration with Local and First Nations governments, Treaty 8 signatories, to adhere to the principles of cultural safety.

Given the vast area that the PRRD spans, an inclusive land acknowledgement will require input and guidance from Treaty 8 First Nations.

SCION Strategies Ltd. (Dale Bumstead) is a consulting firm that works exclusively for the four Dunne Za Nations, West Moberly, Doig River, Prophet River, and Halfway River First Nations, through the provincial government.

ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS:

1. That the Regional Board provide further direction.

STRATEGIC PLAN RELEVANCE:

- Collaboration and Cooperation with First Nations
 - Share PRRD Strategic Goals with First Nations to Identify Opportunities for Cooperation and Collaboration

FINANCIAL CONSIDERATION(S):

None at this time.

COMMUNICATIONS CONSIDERATION(S):

If the recommendation is approved, SCION Strategies Ltd. will facilitate dialogue between Treaty 8 First Nations, and the PRRD, through invitation.

OTHER CONSIDERATION(S):

None at this time.

Attachments: First Nations Backgrounder, PRRD