



# REPORT

To: Chair and Directors

Report Number: ADM-BRD-481

From: Joanne Caldecott, Deputy Corporate Officer

Date: March 7, 2024

**Subject: Waskaygan Housing Management Association Request for Letter of Support**  
**Re: BC Housing Funding**

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## **RECOMMENDATION [ON THE FLOOR]: *[Corporate Unweighted]***

MOVED Director Hiebert, SECONDED Director Veach,

That the Regional Board provide a letter in support to Waskaygan Housing Management Association for their application to BC Housing, under their Project Development Fund for a capacity funding request for \$250,000 and indicate that while support is provided in principle, this is subject to the WHMA contacting the PRRD Development Services Department to ensure that all relevant bylaw regulations, policies, and provincial requirements are met.

## **BACKGROUND/RATIONALE:**

At the February 22, 2024 Board meeting, the Regional Board considered Correspondence Item 7.2 being a letter dated February 5, 2024 from Waskaygan Housing Management Association requesting a letter of support to help strengthen the Association's capacity funding request for \$250,000 under the BC Housing Project Development Fund. The above resolution was not voted on as a robust discussion ensued. Directors discussed the need for capacity housing in the Kelly Lake area, however noted that the application referred to eightplexes which are not in compliance with zoning of that area. Concern was raised regarding providing a letter of support prematurely. Subsequently, at the February 22, 2024 meeting, the Board passed two additional motions regarding the request:

*MOVED, SECONDED and CARRIED*

*That the Regional Board defer the resolution to provide a letter of support to the Waskaygan Housing Management Association regarding their application to BC Housing for a capacity funding request under their Project Development Fund to a future Board Meeting pending discussions regarding the PRRD's requirements.*

*MOVED, SECONDED and CARRIED*

*That staff and the Area D Director meet with Waskaygan Housing Management Association staff to discuss their funding application for the proposed housing initiative and the relevant bylaw regulations, policies and provincial requirements as soon as possible.*

Following deferral of the request, the following has occurred:

1. A revised letter dated February 26, 2024 was submitted for the Regional Board's consideration at the March 7, 2024 Board meeting and has been placed on this agenda under Correspondence. The letter removes reference to the specific types of housing units proposed and references the need

for a feasibility study and associated investigations to determine the possible scope of development.

2. The General Manager of Development Services provided the Waskaygan Housing Management Association with preliminary planning information on February 26, 2024 and also scheduled a meeting to discuss planning requirements for Monday March 4, 2024 - noting that this will be a high-level meeting to ensure overall awareness of bylaws and other approvals that may be required during the development process in the absence of being able to speak to any actual design or site plan.

**ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS:**

1. That the Regional Board provide further direction.

**STRATEGIC PLAN RELEVANCE:**

- Not Applicable to Strategic Plan

**FINANCIAL CONSIDERATION(S):**

N/A

**COMMUNICATIONS CONSIDERATION(S):**

If the Regional Board chooses to pass the motion on the floor, a letter of support will be sent to the Waskaygan Housing Management Association for their application to BC Housing, under their Project Development Fund for a capacity funding request for \$250,000.

**OTHER CONSIDERATION(S):**

At the time this agenda was published, the meeting between the Waskaygan Housing Management Association and PRRD staff had not yet been held. Relevant information regarding the discussions/outcome of the meeting may be provided verbally by the Development Services staff during the March 7<sup>th</sup> Board meeting if requested by the Directors.

External Links:

1. Letter dated February 5, 2024 from Waskaygan Housing Management Association - Request for Letter of Support Re: BC Housing Funding – See [Agenda Item 7.2](#) on the February 22, 2024 Regional Board meeting agenda.