



FRASER VALLEY REGIONAL DISTRICT

FRASER VALLEY ABORIGINAL RELATIONS COMMITTEE

Terms of Reference

1. Purpose

The purpose of the Fraser Valley Aboriginal Relations Committee (“FVARC”) is to advise the Fraser Valley Regional Board of Directors (the “Board”) on treaty negotiations as well as aboriginal relationship issues and opportunities.

2. Objectives

It is recognized that the Fraser Valley Regional District (“FVRD”) and aboriginal communities each have distinct governing authorities and responsibilities towards their residents and members. However, the impact of our decisions can be felt across political boundaries. It is therefore in the interest of both parties to work together in the spirit of cooperation to build a common future.

Working relationships will be based on meaningful communication and dialogue. The work of FVARC will foster an understanding of each party’s governing structures, traditions, roles and responsibilities. FVARC members will respect the views and authority of each party.

The objectives of the FVARC are two-fold:

- to ensure that the unique and special interests of local government are identified and taken into account by the Province during the treaty negotiation process; and
- to build strong and respectful working relationships with aboriginal communities.

3. Membership Selection

- 3.1.** The selection of the FVARC members shall be in accordance with “Fraser Valley Regional District Board and Committee Procedures Bylaw No. 0433, 2001” and amendments thereto.
- 3.2.** FVARC will be comprised of representatives from jurisdictions represented on the Board, and non-FVRD representatives as may be deemed appropriate by FVARC.
- 3.3.** FVARC Members representing non-FVRD jurisdictions will be granted non-voting “observer status”.
- 3.4.** Board determination of FVARC membership will be as follows:

- 3.4.1.** Each FVRD member municipality may appoint two (2) elected representatives, two (2) elected alternates and one (1) staff representative to the FVARC;
- 3.4.2.** The Board Chair shall appoint three (3) Electoral Area Directors and two (2) elected alternates and one (1) staff representative to the FVARC; and
- 3.4.3.** “Observer status” members may be appointed by the Board as non-voting members of the FVARC, one (1) elected representative, one (1) elected alternate, and one (1) staff representative to the FVARC.

3.5. Each FVRD member municipality has two (2) votes.

3.6. Each Electoral Area Services Director appointed by the Board has two (2) votes.

3.7. FVARC staff representatives will act in an advisory capacity only and will be non-voting members.

3.8. Both FVARC “observer status” members and staff representatives are entitled to be present during the FVARC In-Camera sessions.

4. Procedures

4.1. The FVARC shall elect a Chair and Vice-Chair by simple majority vote at the first meeting of the FVARC each year.

4.2. The term of the Chair and Vice-Chair will be one (1) calendar year.

5. Appointments to Negotiating Tables and Other External Committees and Agencies

5.1. The FVARC shall recommend to the Board the appointment of elected and staff representatives to Metro Vancouver Aboriginal Relations Committee, other external committees, agencies and treaty tables.

6. Administration

6.1. FVRD staff will provide administrative support for FVARC.

6.2. An exempt staff member will be appointed as the FVARC Administrator and an exempt administrative assistant will be appointed as FVARC Assistant.