

To: Electoral Area Services Committee

Date: 2020-10-15

From: Sterling Chan, Manager of Engineering and Infrastructure

File No: 5315-20

Subject: Nominal Crown Tenure for Nicomen Island Shoreline Protection Project

RECOMMENDATION

THAT the FVRD Board approves the submission of a Nominal Crown Tenure (NCT) application for the Nicomen Island Improvement District (NIID) dike improvement project.

STRATEGIC AREA(S) OF FOCUS

Support Environmental Stewardship
Support Healthy & Sustainable Community
Provide Responsive & Effective Public Services

PRIORITIES

Priority #3 Flood Protection & Management

BACKGROUND

Nicomen Island is protected from Fraser River flooding by a 35km network of dike, including five pump stations and a series of internal drainage infrastructure. This flood protection infrastructure is the responsibility of the Nicomen Island Improvement District (NIID). In 2015 the Ministry of Agriculture retained Golder Associates Ltd. (Golder) to undertake a study of the flood vulnerability of the existing NIID infrastructure and provide mitigation options to reduce the risk.

As a result, in March 2017 the Ministry of Forests, Lands and Natural Resource Operations (MFLNRO) and Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure (MOTI) signed into a funding agreement with the Fraser Valley Regional District (FVRD) to complete the works identified in the 2015 Golder report. The FVRD is undertaking this project as NIID is a volunteer organization and does not have the resources to undertake a project of this magnitude.

This led to the forming of a Steering Committee (SC) consisting of NIID, FVRD staff, Leq'á:mel First Nation, and Area G Director Al Stobbart to collaboratively decide which works should be prioritized for improving drainage and flood protection. One item agreed upon by the SC is to construct 850m of rock armoring to protect a section of shoreline along the Fraser River that is particularly susceptible to erosion.

The design of these works was completed by Golder and previously the FVRD Board had authorized the award of the construction contract to Jakes Construction Ltd and the purchase of riprap material for this project directly from a rock pit owned by NIID.

DISCUSSION

The project requires the submission of multiple permit applications to various regulatory bodies. In the review of the FVRD's application under the Water Sustainability Act it was identified that a Nominal Crown Tenure (NCT) is required for the portion of works to be installed on Crown land. The NCT is a lease or licence of occupation of Crown land provided to the regional district for a token (nominal) amount of rent. The NCT would be for no more than 2 years (minimum time period) to allow for construction works to be completed in full. A requirement for a NCT is a Board Resolution.

COST

Costs include an application fee of \$250 plus any monies owing for the NCT if approved.

COMMENTS BY:

Tareq Islam, Director of Engineering & Community Services:

Reviewed and supported.

Kelly Lownsbrough, Chief Financial Officer/ Director of Financial Services:

Reviewed and supported.

Jennifer Kinneman, Chief Administrative Officer:

Reviewed and supported.