



Making a difference...together

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March 21, 2024

File: 5220-20
Abandoned Boats
File: 0400-40
Correspondence/Meetings/General

The Honourable Steven Guilbeault
Minister of Environment and Climate Change
Via email: Steven.Guilbeault@parl.gc.ca

Dear Honourable Steven Guilbeault:

RE: REGIONAL WORKSHOP INVITE: COLLABORATIVE ACTION TO RESOLVE BOAT-RELATED ISSUES IN THE CAPITAL REGION

On behalf of the Capital Regional District (CRD) Board, I am inviting you and your senior staff to attend a regional workshop to discuss the challenges local governments are having with the increase in derelict and abandoned boats, and the proliferation of private mooring buoys and long-term moored boats in our marine waters.

These issues have a complex and multi-jurisdictional regulatory framework that includes both provincial and federal regulations and policies. There are implications across our region and more broadly along the coast of British Columbia, as action to resolve ongoing boat issues within one area could transfer or increase boat issues in other areas. The issues include impacts to communities (trespass, garbage, sewage), environmental degradation, damage to sensitive marine ecosystems, housing and mental health concerns, inability to access public land by others, health, safety and navigation concerns and the cumulative impacts when many boats are moored.

At the workshop, we will share the scope and scale of the problem in the capital region and discuss actions that could be taken by local, provincial and federal government jurisdictions and First Nations partners to achieve collaborative resolutions for these issues. While local governments have options to manage boat-related use of lands within their metes and bounds through zoning, land use and structure bylaws, assistance from provincial and federal governments with jurisdiction over some of these issues is needed.

The CRD will host a regional workshop with staff and elected officials from local, provincial and federal agencies and First Nations on:

Date: Tuesday, April 30, 2024
Time: 9:00 am - 12:00 pm
Location: CRD Headquarters, 625 Fisgard Street (virtual option available)

Please [register](#) by **April 16, 2024**, specifying your attendance preference—whether in person or virtually. Following registration, you will receive a calendar invite and an agenda package.

Honourable Steven Guilbeault – March 21, 2024

**RE: Regional Workshop Invite: Collaborative Action to Resolve Boat-related Issues in the
Capital Region**

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If you have any questions, please contact Glenn Harris, Senior Manager, Environmental Protection at gharris@crd.bc.ca or 250.360.3090.

Thank you for your consideration of this matter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Colin Plant', is positioned above the typed name.

Colin Plant
Chair, Capital Regional District Board

cc: CRD Board Members
Ted Robbins, Chief Administrative Officer, CRD
Larisa Hutcheson, Acting General Manager, Parks & Environmental Services, CRD
Glenn Harris, Senior Manager, Environmental Protection, CRD