

CAPITAL REGIONAL DISTRICT

Staff Report to the Regional Planning Committee
Meeting of Wednesday, March 21, 2001

SUBJECT:

Public Advisory Committee (PAC) Members Survey

BACKGROUND:

The November 15, 2000 Public Advisory Committee report to RPC recommends sending a short questionnaire to members after the conclusion of the committee's term that asks respondents to comment on the work of the committee and how it could have been improved. The purpose of the Public Advisory Committee was to ensure a fair and thorough public consultation process with regional residents for the purpose of developing a Regional Growth Strategy (RGS) in the CRD. It met from November 1996 to November 2000 and advised the CRD Board through the Regional Planning Committee regarding:

- the process for consultation with regional residents
- communications and media relations
- the formation and operation of Community Discussion Groups
- input and feedback on RGS documents"

DISCUSSION:

The questionnaire was sent on January 23, 2001 to 21 members including some of whom, for one reason or another, resigned. Members were asked to respond by mid February. Attachment A sorts out the questions along with a consolidation of each individual member's comments.

Of the 21 former members polled, only 7 responded to the questionnaire. Responses to question 1 suggest that most PAC members were generally satisfied with the public consultation process for the Regional Growth Strategy. Question 7 asked if the Internet web pages were a good method of disseminating information on RGS programs, updates and general queries. Only 2 of 7 respondents advised they are using the web page, but they had a high degree of confidence that it was a useful tool for obtaining information. Similarly, question 9 indicates that the RGS bulletin *Foundations for our Future* was a very effective means for creating public awareness. On the question of whether individual member's participation in PAC was an overall positive experience, the responses from both questions 11 and 12 suggest that the experience was both good and useful.

RECOMMENDATION:

That Regional Planning Committee receive this report for information.

Mark Hornell, Acting Manager
Regional Planning Services

Cory Baker, Planner
Regional Planning Services

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S COMMENTS:

W.M. Jordan, Executive Director