

CRD Board Chair's Remarks

November 10, 2021 – check against delivery

Hello Colleagues.

Thank you for returning me to this position. It is an honour.

I have already spoken today at length today so I'm going to try to keep my remarks brief and looking forward.

The next year is one of opportunities and completions for this Board.

We have completed almost all of the work on the region's largest infrastructure project in its history and now face several significant challenges that are going to require our focus and determination.

Our commitment to climate action is one we cannot stop advancing. Our future depends on it. We have an ambitious program planned and the bylaw is currently out for approval with our local governments. I continue to ask you to be champions of this work when it comes to your local table.

We also will begin to look at next steps for our solid and liquid waste. While we have adopted a new Solid Waste Management Plan we all know that we have to look at our solid waste as a resource and not as just something to bury. Our first annual review of our Solid Waste Management Plan will happen early next year.

Our commitment to a more integrated and climate-friendly regional transportation system cannot waiver. In the last 12 months we have moved from a place of aspirations and goals to one of advocacy and coordination. I believe we must continue to make progress on the transportation file and set the table for the next board to continue this work when the board changes.

Our country's need to have Truth and Reconciliation with First Nations should resonate in this room. I believe we are on the right path and need to continue to develop relationships with

the First Nations in the region that are based on mutual respect and mutual advancement. This is an endeavour we must all support.

It is my intention to keep Committees and the leadership in them the same. That is unless someone wishes to step down from a position of leadership on a committee. There will be an email sent to you shortly that will ask for your preferences but again I am not envisioning making any changes unless you ask to no be on a committee. There are a couple of committees, First Nations Relations being one of them, where there are openings if you are looking for additional opportunities to serve.

While it is still a year away, I would offer it is incredibly important topic for us to consider setting the future Board up for success in a number of ways. To that end I would offer our Spring Strategic Priorities check-in will be very crucial. We cannot have the work of this Board not continue with the next Board and in order to have that success we will need to think about how we will hand that off to the next Board. This is something that we will discuss throughout the year.

Thank you for listening to my remarks. Let's get on with the business of this meeting.