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**Capital Regional District**

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November 13, 2019

File: 0400-20

The Honourable John Horgan, M.L.A.  
Premier of British Columbia  
PO Box 9041 Stn Prov Govt  
Victoria, BC V8W 9E1  
Via email: [premier@gov.bc.ca](mailto:premier@gov.bc.ca)

Dear Premier Horgan:

**RE: REQUEST FOR ORDER IN COUNCIL – CRD ELECTORAL AREAS**

We are writing to request an Order in Council be advanced to include the Capital Regional District (CRD) Electoral Areas of Salt Spring Island, Southern Gulf Islands and Juan de Fuca in the regions approved for investment by Islands Coastal Economic Trust (ICET).

The Islands Coastal Economic Trust's (ICET) was established in 2006 with a mandate to build a diverse, innovative and sustainable island and coastal economy for British Columbia. Despite being rural, coastal communities, the CRD Electoral Areas have been excluded from the benefits of ICET programs since 2006.

In July of 2018, representatives of the Southern Gulf Islands and Salt Spring Island Economic Development Commissions were informed by the Ministry of Jobs, Trade and Technology, (JTT) Office of Economic Partnerships, that inclusion of the CRD Electoral Areas in the ICET program would require a regulatory change with BC Cabinet approval – an Order in Council decision.

The Director of the Office of Economic Partnerships, JTT was asked by the JTT Ministry to move forward with the consultation process regarding this request. This Office arranged for consultation with the ICET Board, the CRD Electoral Area Directors, Islands Trust Trustees and leaders of organizations including VIEA, VICEDA, AVICC and UBCM. These consultations were concluded in November – December 2018. In February of 2019, the JTT Office informed CRD Electoral Area representatives that their Office continued to move forward with preparing a package for Cabinet – and that an exact timeline for presentation to Council had not been set.

In May of 2019, MLA Adam Olsen and the Office of Economic Partnerships, JTT confirmed the consultation process was complete, was satisfactory, and should lead to a positive decision to include the CRD Electoral Areas in the ICET territory. However, to this day no action has been taken by the government to address this inequity.

On October 9, 2019, the Capital Regional District Board passed a resolution to request a timely decision to include the CRD unincorporated Electoral Areas of Salt Spring Island, Southern Gulf Islands and Juan de Fuca in the Islands Coastal Economic Trust Territory.

We look forward to your response and a resolution to this issue that is of primary importance to the residents of the CRD Electoral Areas.

Sincerely,



Gary Holman  
Salt Spring Island Electoral  
Area Director



Dave Howe  
Southern Gulf Islands Electoral  
Area Director



Mike Hicks  
Juan de Fuca Electoral  
Area Director

cc: Francine Carlin, Chair, Salt Spring Island Community Economic Development Commission  
Deb Goldman, Chair, Southern Gulf Islands Community Economic Sustainability  
Commission