



REGIONAL DISTRICT of Fraser-Fort George

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REPORT FOR CONSIDERATION

TO: Chair and Directors File No.: MIW 1.0

FROM: Meredith Burmaster, Manager of Community Services

DATE: June 2, 2022

SUBJECT: Proposed Miworth Community Facilities Service

SUMMARY: Purpose: Consider Miworth Community Facilities Feasibility Study and Service Establishment Bylaw

Attachments:

1. Letter dated June 3, 2022 from the Miworth Community Association
2. Feasibility Study
3. Bylaw #3271, 2022

Previous Reports:

1. Item #12.1, May 2019
2. Item #11.1, August 2016

RECOMMENDATION(S):

1. THAT the report and letter dated June 3, 2022 from the Miworth Community Association be received.
2. THAT the Miworth Community Facilities Service Feasibility Study be received.
3. THAT Miworth Community Facilities Establishment Bylaw No. 3271, 2022 be now introduced and read a first time.
4. THAT the rules be suspended and Bylaw No. 3271, 2022 be given second and third readings.
5. THAT participating area approval for Bylaw No. 3271 be obtained by assent of the electors.
6. THAT the Board authorize the expenditure of up to \$8,000 from the Feasibility Study Reserve Fund to cover the costs associated with the vote on Bylaw No. 3271.

ENTITLEMENT	HOW VOTE COUNTED
All 1 Director/1 vote	Majority
All 1 Director/1 vote	Majority
All 1 Director/1 vote	Majority
All 1 Director/1 vote	Majority
All 1 Director/1 vote	Majority
All 1 Director/1 vote	Majority

ISSUE(S):

At the August 2016 meeting, the Regional District Board approved a request from the Miworth Community Association for Community Services Administration to work with a local steering committee to evaluate the feasibility of establishing a recreational facilities taxable service in Miworth. Since that time there have been many meetings in this regard and the Community Association has expended much effort making improvements to their facilities to keep operating budget costs to a reasonable amount. A public information meeting was held on May 28, 2022 in Miworth, presenting key details of the study including the benefitting service area, method of taxation, taxation impact, and the expected annual operating budget for the first two years of taxation. The Miworth Community Association believes there is sufficient community support for the proposal and would like to move forward with the elector assent process to consider establishing a community facilities service.

The Board is being asked to consider first three readings of Miworth Community Facilities Establishment Bylaw No. 3271, 2022 as well as to consider authorizing participating area approval by assent of the electors (referendum).

RELEVANT POLICIES:

1. *Local Government Act s. 332:*
 - Allows for the establishment of a service that is considered necessary or desirable
2. *Local Government Act, s. 343 and 344*
 - Requirements for approval of service establishment bylaw
3. *Election and Voting Procedure Bylaw No. 3264, 2022*
 - Establishes procedures to facilitate the participation and registration of electors and the orderly conduct of voting
4. *Equipment Facilities, Utility and Land Asset Acquisition Policy RD-13-18*
 - Provides consistent approach to the evaluation of third-party assets and provides the general conditions the transfer of an asset to the Regional District

STRATEGIC ALIGNMENT:

- ☐ Climate Action ☐ Economic Health ☐ Indigenous Relations ☒ Strong Communities
- ☐ None – Statutory or Routine Business

SERVICE RELEVANCE:

N/A

FINANCIAL CONSIDERATION(S):

If the Miworth Community Facilities Service is established, it is expected that the first year of taxation would have a requisition of \$30,650 resulting in a residential tax rate of \$.2572 per \$1,000 of net taxable land and improvements. The maximum requisition for the service establishment bylaw is \$35,000 to provide flexibility for future requisition increases if necessary and results in a residential tax rate of \$.2937 per \$1,000 of net taxable land and improvements.

The Board has previously approved expenditures of up to \$6,300 from the Feasibility Study Reserve Fund for the purpose of engaging an engineer consultant to prepare an assessment of the current facilities. A further \$8,000 is being requested from the Feasibility Study Reserve Fund for the purpose of covering the expenses related to the assent vote. If the service is established, any monies spent from the Feasibility Study Reserve Fund will be repaid by the new service in the first year of taxation.

OTHER CONSIDERATION(S):

The Miworth Community Association supports moving forward with obtaining participating area approval by elector assent to establish the Miworth Community Facilities Service.

A service establishment bylaw requires the approval of the Inspector of Municipalities prior to the holding of the assent (referendum) process. If the bylaw is approved by the Inspector of Municipalities, it is contemplated that the assent vote would be held in conjunction with the 2022 General Local Election.

DECISION OPTIONS:

1. Approve recommendations.
 - bylaw will be forwarded to the Ministry of Municipal Affairs for Inspector approval

Other Options:

- a. do not approve recommendations:
 - bylaw will not be forwarded to the Ministry of Municipal Affairs
 - assent of the electors for the new Miworth Community Facilities Service will not proceed

COMMENTS:

If the Board is supportive of moving ahead with the Miworth Community Facilities Service, the establishment bylaw will be forwarded to the Ministry of Municipal Affairs for approval. If approved, assent of electors will be held within 80 days of the Ministry's approval with the intent of coordinating timelines with the 2022 General Local Election.

Respectfully submitted,

"Meredith Burmaster"

Meredith Burmaster
Manager of Community Services

MB:ed