



Agenda No: 5.1
Mtg Date: April 8, 2010

Governance & Services Committee

TO: Governance & Services Committee
DATE: March 31, 2010
FROM: Okanagan Similkameen Airshed Coalition
(Directors Shepherd and Edgson – RDCO Appointees)
SUBJECT: Okanagan Similkameen Airshed Coalition Minutes & Action Items

Recommendation

THAT the Governance & Services Committee receive the Okanagan Similkameen Airshed Coalition minutes of November 17, 2009 and February 24, 2010.

Below are recommendations which were adopted by the Coalition for Regional Board consideration.

BACKGROUND

1) *November 17, 2009 Meeting*

The Okanagan Similkameen Airshed Coalition at its November 17, 2009 meeting had discussion around BC Transit's Strategic Planning Session held November 17th in Kelowna. One of the concerns expressed by the Coalition, is that not one of the top five priorities of the Transit Plan dealt with greenhouse gas reductions. As this is a provincially mandated requirement for local government, the question was raised why this is not a priority for BC Transit.

BC Transit Strategic Planning Session – 3.6 – Pg. 4

Recommendation #1

Whereas the average British Columbia community has 2.5% of its citizens using public transportation and that the current BC Transit objective is to double ridership to 5% and

Whereas the BC Transit Strategic Plan is being developed to the year 2030, and the Province has set the green house gas emission reduction targets to be reduced by 80% to the year 2050;

AND Whereas not one of the top five priorities of BC Transits draft strategic transit plan deals with greenhouse gas reductions,

THEREFORE, the Okanagan Similkameen Airshed Coalition recommends that the BC Transit Strategic Plan include in their strategic plan a higher objective than doubling ridership in order to reduce greenhouse gases;

AND FURTHER THAT BC Transit should consider green house gas reduction and improving air quality as part of their list of major priorities to address Provincial climate change and air quality mandates.

AND FURTHER THAT this resolution be forwarded to the three Regional Districts Boards for support of the resolution prior to a letter being forwarded to BC Transit.

2) *February 24, 2010 Coalition Minutes*

Attached are the minutes of the Okanagan Similkameen Airshed Coalition minutes of February 24, 2010. The following are proposed recommendations for Regional Board consideration.

Anti-Idling (pg 3 – 4.5)

Recommendation #2

WHEREAS the UBCM Climate Action Charter, requires each Municipality to become carbon neutral by 2012 and reduce greenhouse gas emissions by 33% by 2020 to meet the BC Climate targets,

THEREFORE the Okanagan Similkameen Airshed Coalition recommends to the three Regional District Boards that they receive the anti-idling discussion and the *Cracking Down on Idling* papers and request that they consider a social marketing program for anti-idling,

AND FURTHER THAT the Okanagan Similkameen Airshed Coalition request regional and municipal governments forward any anti-idling policies to the Okanagan Similkameen Airshed Coalition for their review.

Recommendation #3

THAT the Okanagan Similkameen Airshed Coalition request that the participating Regional Districts consider forwarding a letter to agencies and corporate partners, who operate fleet vehicles and/or transit in their communities, asking if they have an anti-idling policy and that they share information on the successes of that policy;

AND THAT if they do not have an anti-idling policy in place they be encouraged to adopt a policy;

AND FURTHER THAT the Regional Districts inform the agencies and corporations that this information will be shared with the Okanagan Similkameen Airshed Coalition.

Recommendation #4

That Okanagan Similkameen Airshed Coalition recommend to the participating Regional Districts to support a valley wide communication strategy for raising awareness about chipping programs and air quality issues to all growers throughout the Valley and that the information provided be translated into other languages.

The above recommendations are for your consideration.