



Agenda No:	9.1 a)
Mtg Date:	Jan 26/09

Regional Board Report

TO: Regional Board
FROM: Governance & Services Committee
DATE: January 21, 2009

The Governance & Services Committee met on Thursday, January 15th and forwards the following recommendation for consideration of the Regional Board.

1) Disposal of Okanagan Lake Bridge pontoons

Staff report dated January 8, 2009 to the Governance and Services Committee outlined the Board's previous discussions and position regarding the sinking of the Okanagan Lake Bridge pontoons.

Recommendation:

THAT the Regional Board recognizes the jurisdiction of the Province of BC in determining the outcome of the disposal of the Okanagan Lake Bridge pontoons, as well recognizes the contractual arrangements with SNC Lavalin, but wishes to state that the Regional District of Central Okanagan does not support the sinking of the pontoons into Okanagan Lake;

AND FURTHER THAT it is believed there are other more environmental friendly alternatives to sinking the pontoons and that the Province ensures such alternatives are thoroughly investigated before a final decision is made on disposal of the pontoons.

Excerpt from January 15, 2009 Governance and Services Committee meeting minutes (Not approved)

4. Governance

4.1 Okanagan Lake Bridge pontoons (review of Board's decisions)

Staff report dated January 8, 2009 outlined the Board's previous discussions and position regarding the sinking of the Okanagan Lake Bridge pontoons.

Discussion included:

- Various options for re-use have been investigated. Municipalities have looked at reuse options but the costs were deemed to be too high.
- It has been reported that possible sites for sinking the pontoons have been moved away from municipal water intakes.
- Contractor must satisfy the provincial environment concerns and in the end the decision to sink and where to sink the pontoons is with the Province.
- The question was raised whether the Province (Ministry of Environment, Ministry of Transportation, partnership division and SNC Lavalin) should be invited to discuss with the Board what the status is for sinking the pontoons. In the end, it was agreed that if the Board has a position it should communicate that position and that in the end it is the Province who makes the final decision, the Board just wants to make the point to ensure that environmentally friendly options are considered.
- Understand that there are contractual arrangements between SNC and the Province.
- Need to look at the potential emission savings and environmental costs of creating new gravel pits versus using the pontoons as aggregate. It was noted there are also environmental issues should grinding be an option.
- Various options may exist and wondered if all have been thought out such as:
 - o Grinding and using the material for aggregate, possible extension of public property, boat moorage
 - o Consider environmental responsible methods.
 - o Consider a citizens group to review the various ideas which have come forward for the reuse of the pontoons.

#GS04/09 OPHUS/SHEPHERD

THAT the Governance and Services Committee recommends to the Regional Board:

THAT the Regional Board recognizes the jurisdiction of the Province of BC in determining the outcome of the disposal of the Okanagan Lake Bridge pontoons, as well recognizes the contractual arrangements with SNC Lavalin, but wishes to state that the Regional District of Central Okanagan does not support the sinking of the pontoons into Okanagan Lake;

AND FURTHER THAT it is believed there are other more environmental friendly alternatives to sinking the pontoons and that the Province ensures such alternatives are thoroughly investigated before a final decision is made on disposal of the pontoons.

CARRIED