



## Alternative Approval Process Information Sheet

### **About the Alternative Approval Process:**

Under the Community Charter, local governments such as the District of Summerland may use an Alternative Approval Process (AAP) to directly engage citizens about a proposed bylaw or other matter requiring elector approval. An AAP can be used for various initiatives to undertake long-term borrowing, a boundary extension, to establish a new regional district service, or other matter requiring approval of the electorate.

The alternative approval process was formerly known as counter-petition. The alternative approval process requires that 10 percent or more of the eligible electors must sign and submit response forms in opposition to the proposed initiative to require the local government to obtain assent of the electors in order to proceed. When this happens the issue is considered significant and the local government has two choices. They may proceed to assent voting within 80 days, or they may put the matter on hold and consider alternatives to the proposed action.

### **Loan Authorization (Giants Head Road Upgrades) Bylaw 2022-005:**

The District of Summerland Council intends to adopt *Loan Authorization (Giants Head Road Upgrades) Bylaw 2022-005*. The purpose of the bylaw is to borrow an amount not to exceed six million four hundred sixty-four thousand five hundred dollars (\$6,464,500) to finance the cost of the Giants Head Road Upgrades that will be repaid over a period not to exceed twenty-five (25) years.

The components of the Giants Head Road Upgrades project include the roadway construction, pathway / shoulder bike lanes, drainage improvements, watermain replacement and water system separation infrastructure along Giants Head Road, from Harris Road to Gartrell Road. Additionally, pulverized paving will occur along Giants Head Road from Gartrell Road to Hillborn Street.

The estimated cost of roadway construction, pathway / shoulder bike lanes and drainage improvements portion of the project is \$3,181,860.00 and is to be recovered through a property tax rate increase. The estimated cost of watermain replacement and water system separation is \$3,282,640.00 and is to be recovered through a water rate increase.

The estimated cost of the Giants Head Road Upgrades project to residents will be approximately \$73.15 per year. Should the full \$6,464,500.00 not be utilized for this project, the estimated cost to taxpayers could decrease.

A copy of Bylaw 2022-005 and report summarizing the project is available at municipal hall during each business day of the week, excluding statutory holidays, between 8:30am and 4:00pm and on the District's website at <https://www.summerland.ca/your-city-hall/elections/alternative-approval-process?pname=Alternative%20Approval%20Process>.

### **How do you indicate your objection?**

Eligible electors indicate their opposition to the proposal by submitting an Elector Response Form to the Corporate Officer of the District of Summerland. The response of the elector must be in the form established by the District of Summerland. Forms are available at District of Summerland Municipal Hall located at 13211 Henry Avenue. Forms are also available on the District of Summerland website at <https://www.summerland.ca/your-city-hall/elections/alternative-approval-process?pname=Alternative%20Approval%20Process>. Electors who are unable to access the forms by these means may contact the Corporate Officer at 250-404-4037 or email

kkinsley@summerland.ca. Only Elector Response Forms with original signature are to be submitted and must be received by the District of Summerland Corporate Officer before the deadline.

### **Who is an Eligible Elector?**

In order to sign an elector response form in relation to the alternative approval process, a person must either be a resident elector or a non-resident property elector.

A **resident elector** is an individual who is entitled to sign an elector response form during an AAP by virtue of living within the municipal boundary of the District of Summerland. When signing an elector response form, a resident elector must:

- be 18 years of age or older;
- be a Canadian citizen;
- have been a resident of British Columbia for at least 6 months immediately before signing the Elector Response Form;
- have been a resident of the District of Summerland for at least 30 days before signing the Elector Response Form; and
- not be disqualified by any enactment from voting in an election or otherwise disqualified by law.

A **non-resident property elector** is an individual that does not live in a jurisdiction and who is entitled to sign an elector response form during an AAP by virtue of owning property in that jurisdiction. When signing an elector response form, a non-resident property elector must:

- not be entitled to register as a resident elector of the District of Summerland;
- be 18 years of age or older;
- be a Canadian citizen;
- have been a resident of British Columbia for at least 6 months immediately before signing the Elector Response Form;
- have been a registered owner of real property within the District of Summerland for at least 30 days before signing the Elector Response Form;
- not be disqualified by any enactment from voting in an election or otherwise disqualified by law;
- be registered owners of the real property, either as joint tenants or tenants in common, and not be holding the property in trust for a corporation or another trust; and

Note: Only one non-resident property elector may sign an elector response form per property, regardless of how many people own the property; and that owner must have written consent of a majority of the other property owner(s) to sign the response form on their behalf. Property owned in whole or in part by a corporation does not qualify under non-resident elector provisions.

### **For more information, please contact:**

Corporate Officer

[kkinsley@summerland.ca](mailto:kkinsley@summerland.ca)

250-404-4037