



URBAN DEVELOPMENT INSTITUTE- OKANAGAN CHAPTER

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Regional District of Central Okanagan
1450 K.L.O Road
Kelowna, B.C. V1W 3Z4

RE: Union of British Columbia Municipalities – Letter of Support for a Development Approvals Process Improvement Strategy

The Urban Development Institute (UDI) Okanagan Chapter would like to confirm its support for the Regional District of Central Okanagan's (RDCO) grant application through the Local Government Development Approvals Program (LGDAP) administered by the Union of British Columbia Municipalities (UBCM) for the implementation of a Development Approvals Process Improvement Strategy. The focus of the proposal is to develop a Development Approvals Process Improvement Strategy to review the operational steps and decision making process to improve the implementation of policies, establish best practices, and ensure compliance with policies, plans, and regulations of other provincial governing bodies.

Development approval processes vary significantly across local governments resulting in a strong need for consistency across the Okanagan Valley. Updates to procedures bylaws, development approvals process guides, and improving information technology have not been undertaken. A Development Approvals Process Improvement Strategy is warranted to establish the required consistency of regulation, policy and best practices throughout the Regional District.

UDI Okanagan's mandate is to promote wise and efficient urban growth, to exercise good planning and progressive development practices. UDI Okanagan is committed to working the RDCO to help develop a Development Approvals Process Improvement Strategy to create and achieve the vision of balanced, well-planned and sustainable communities.

UDI Okanagan is willing to assist and provide support by:

- Attending meetings to share ideas, concerns, provide feedback, and success stories;
- Contribute to the sharing of information and dialogue between other partners and existing work being done in their communities;
- Reviewing and commenting on documents and reports;
- Promoting the development of the strategy within the organization and to the public; and
- Supporting the strategy's implementation.

We would be available to answer any questions regarding the above should they arise.

Best Regards,

Jennifer Dixon,
Executive Director, UDI Okanagan

Luke Turri,
Chair, UDI Okanagan