

Agenda  
FB  
info



Ref: 134885

JAN 29 2010

Ms. Karen Goodings, Chair  
and Members of the Board  
Peace River Regional District  
Box 810  
Dawson Creek, BC V1G 4H8

Dear Chair Goodings and Board Members:

The Local Government Elections Task Force is currently seeking written comments from your local government, and from organizations and individuals in your community, to assist in its review of local government election issues.

Announced at the Union of British Columbia Municipalities (UBCM) 2009 Convention, the Local Government Elections Task Force is a joint, consensus-based group of provincial and UBCM members. The Task Force co-chairs are Honourable Bill Bennett, Minister of Community and Rural Development, and Chair Harry Nyce, President of the UBCM. Other Task Force members are:

- Surrey Councillor, Barbara Steele, first vice-president, UBCM;
- Quesnel Mayor, Mary Sjostrom, third vice-president, UBCM;
- Donna Barnett, MLA, Cariboo-Chilcotin; and
- Douglas Horne, MLA, Coquitlam-Burke Mountain.

Recognizing the importance of hearing from local governments throughout British Columbia, the Task Force invites you to submit the comments of your local government on any or all of the following topics:

- Campaign finance, including contribution/spending disclosure and limits, and tax credits;
- Enforcement processes and outcomes;
- Role of the British Columbia Chief Electoral Officer in local government elections;

.../2

Ministry of Community  
and Rural Development

Office of the Minister



PO Box 9056 Stn Prov Govt  
Victoria BC V8W 9E2

Phone: 250 387-2283  
Fax: 250 387-4312  
www.gov.bc.ca/cd

February 11, 2010

Chair Goodings and Board Members  
Page 2

- Election cycle (term of office);
- Corporate vote; and,
- Matters raised in election resolutions submitted to the 2009 UBCM Convention, such as the eligibility of volunteers.


To assist in its deliberations, the Task Force would appreciate your comments as soon as possible, preferably by April 15, 2010. It is anticipated that the Task Force will deliver its recommendations to the Province of British Columbia and the UBCM by May 30, 2010, after which legislation is expected to be presented to the Legislature in time for the 2011 local government elections.

The Task Force is aware of the tight time frame and that the interest in local government elections extends beyond local governments to the broader community including individuals, community groups and other representative organizations. **As such, the Task Force requests that you share this request for written comments within your community, particularly with local groups and individuals interested in local government election issues.**

Written comments can be made via email to: [LocalElectionsTaskForce@gov.bc.ca](mailto:LocalElectionsTaskForce@gov.bc.ca), by fax to: 250 387-7972, or by mail to:

Local Government Elections Task Force  
c/o Ministry of Community and Rural Development  
PO Box 9839 Stn Prov Govt  
Victoria, BC V8W 9T1

Though the Task Force will receive feedback primarily through written comments, individual Task Force members will also engage in conversations on the election issues under review as they meet with local government representatives, organizations and citizens during the normal course of their responsibilities.


*Notes* For local governments, the UBCM is planning a one-day workshop in March for its members who wish to attend. In addition, Area Associations will have a further opportunity to discuss these issues at their Spring Conventions. Workshop details will be announced shortly. 

For further information on the Local Government Elections Task Force, please visit the website at: [www.LocalElectionsTaskForce.gov.bc.ca](http://www.LocalElectionsTaskForce.gov.bc.ca).

Chair Goodings and Board Members  
Page 3

We look forward to hearing from you on ways to improve our local government election processes.

Sincerely,



Bill Bennett  
Minister of Community  
and Rural Development



Harry Nyce  
President  
Union of British Columbia Municipalities