



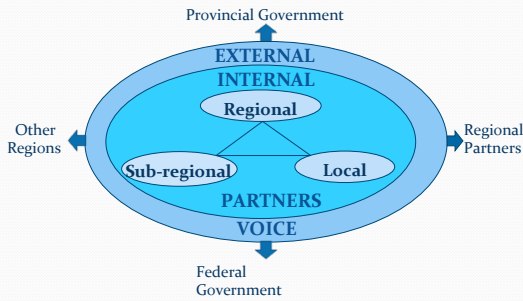




Why Regional Districts?

- Supporting municipalities • Governance as a federation of members
- Coordinating infrastructure between communities • Template for arranging cross-boundary service partnerships
- Responding to diverse local service needs • Custom local services: any service, any scale, any mode
- Matching who pays, who benefits and who decides • Flexible service boundaries and cost recovery options
- Planning & service delivery in rural areas • Local government for rural planning and services

A "Made-in-BC" Solution



Regional Districts as Federations

Bridge between municipal and non-municipal areas.
Exist alongside municipalities - not a separate level of local government in BC, above or apart from municipalities.
Federations of equal partners creating service partnerships.

Regional District Governance

Regional districts are governed by the Board of Directors.

The Board is responsible for the services provided by and the actions taken by the Corporation.

The Board is comprised of two types of Directors:

- Municipal Directors – appointed by their respective councils
- Electoral Area Directors – elected directly to the Board by the electors in the area they represent

Governance (cont'd)

The Board of Directors is headed by the Chair who is the Chief Executive Officer of the Corporation – elected annually by, and from, the Directors.

The Board is the governing body responsible for setting a vision, developing strategies to achieve the vision and formulating policies.

The CAO implements the Board's policies and decisions and handles all operations.

Special Voting Rules

Note: applies to all but GVRD

Unweighted Corporate

- Every Director votes, each casts one vote
- Used for corporate matters (e.g., to elect chair, adopt procedure bylaws, general administration matters)

Weighted Corporate

- Every Director votes, each casts a number of votes based on population
- Used for corporate financial decisions (e.g., financial plan)

Weighted Stakeholder Vote

- Only Directors from the service area vote, each casts a number of votes based on population
- Used for service administration and operation decisions

The Differences

Differences between municipalities and regional districts include:

- Taxing authority
- Revenue & expenses must stay with each rd service
- Roads and policing cannot be provided by regional districts
- Electors or representatives of benefiting areas must consent to establish new services

Why Partner for Services?

- Competitive service advantage
- Low-cost framework for negotiating partnership services
- Multiple services with custom boundaries
- Match between who pays, who benefits, and who decides
- Professional service management and service delivery you can't afford on your own

The result: Over 3,000 types of service partnerships in BC

Service Partnerships

Regional Services - general administration, regional parks, solid waste

Subregional Services - recreation, airports, transit

Electoral Area Services - electoral area administration, regulatory services, building inspection, flood control

Community Services - fire and rescue, water and sewer systems, mosquito control, street lighting, cemeteries

Multi-Region Services/Projects - E9-1-1, Carbon Neutral Kootenays

Infinite Service Delivery Options

1. Options		3. Deliver the service			
		Direct provision	Contract (public)	Contract (private)	Arm's length
2. Find your Partner	Local	RDEK Fairmont flood & landslide control	TNRD rural building regulation	RDKB Big White recycling & garbage	Capital Saturna Island fire protection
	Sub-regional	RDEK conservation fund	CORD suburban transit	Cariboo South Cariboo airport	Bulkeley Valley economic development
	Regional	RDKB emergency planning	RDCK 911 service	Metro Vancouver waste to energy	Capital housing
	Multi-regional	Lower Mainland parks	North Island 911 service	Metro Vancouver regional parks	North Island 911

A Bright Future

Unmatched service potential
(e.g. any scale, fair, efficient)

The toughest issues are those that cut across sectors and boundaries

Regions often end up with the toughest issues
(e.g. solid waste, growth management, economic development)

Tough issues may result in real debate and some conflict...

But the opportunities for results are considerable

Regional Districts need **you** to realize their potential

Collaboration to Strengthen Regions

- Provincial legislation and supports
- Incentives for regional action
- Support from strong, collaborative associations (e.g. UBCM, MFA, LGMA, CivicInfo BC, MIA)
- Building leadership skills (e.g. collaboration, negotiation, soft power)

An Independent Perspective

"The only **success stories** have been the **regional districts** in British Columbia, including Metro Vancouver. Municipal membership is compulsory, but municipalities can opt in or out of most services that they provide; boundaries are fixed, but territories of particular services are not; all municipalities are representative on the boards of directors, but votes are weighted to account for population differences; regional planning is an important function, but local municipalities retain significant planning autonomy; the province is not afraid to step in on important policy issues (transit for example), but it does not try to rearrange municipal boundaries. These are the kinds of policies and practices that enabled regional districts to survive and prosper for a period of more than 40 years. **They are Canada's success stories in two-tier metropolitan and regional government.**"

Andrew Sancton, Western Ontario University *Canadian Local Government: An Urban Perspective* (Toronto: Oxford University Press, 2011)

More Information

40 Years: A Regional District Retrospective

Google "Regional District Retrospective"

Regional District Tool Kit (UBCM)

www.ubcm.ca/library/default.aspx

Ministry Publications

• *Designing Regional Service Arrangements*

• *Primer on Regional Districts in BC*

www.cscd.gov.bc.ca/lgd/site_index/publications.htm