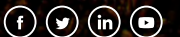


2023

Corporate Plan



comoxvalleyrd.ca





Dyke Road Park overlooking the estuary.



Contents

Chair Message.....	5
Vision Statement.....	7
What We Do	8
Strategic Drivers.....	10
Strategic Planning at the CVRD.....	12
CVRD Goals for 2023.....	13
Moving Forward Together on Reconciliation.....	14
Core Services	15
Core Services at Work.....	17
■ Core Services: Finance and Administration	19
■ Core Services: Water Supply	22
■ Core Services: Recreation	26
■ Core Services: Regional Sustainability	30
■ Core Services: Sewage Treatment	33
■ Core Services: Regional Emergency Services.....	40
■ Core Services: Transportation	44
■ Core Services: Electoral Area Services	48
CSRHD – Comox Strathcona Regional Hospital District.....	52
CSWM – Comox Strathcona Waste Management.....	54
NI911 – North Island 9-1-1 Corporation.....	56
CVRD 2022 Financials	58



Chair Message

2022 was an interesting year filled with a local government election cycle and thoughtful discussions regarding climate issues impacting our home and the world. I am honoured to be re-elected to Cumberland Council as well as the Comox Valley Regional District (CVRD) Board Chair. It is now that we need extra concerted efforts to ensure the place we call home can be enjoyed by future generations.

The Comox Valley is a special place and we all need to help protect this community and the people who live here. From reducing greenhouse gas emissions, ensuring food security, conserving our natural and farming areas, and looking at ways to help mitigate the climate change impacts – the CVRD Board is looking to help create a more resilient Comox Valley together.

This year, the CVRD Board is focusing its efforts on maintaining high quality services for residents, while continuing to invest in capital projects to help our community in the long term. The Comox Valley Sewer Conveyance and Sewer Extension South projects both offer long term environmental and community benefits. Some other high priority initiatives being focused on include: building capacity and policies around the newly established regional parks service to help conserve and protect our beloved natural landscapes, transformation of the emergency program to a regional service, and strategic planning on the future of recreation for the Comox Valley.

In June, the CVRD Board will be undertaking a strategic planning session to confirm the Board's priorities for the coming four years. Having these priorities helps guide where the focus needs to be for our region and what is important to you. The ultimate goal is always to ensure we are balancing actions with taxes. Providing high valued service to our residents in an affordable manner is the number one priority; and we do understand the impacts that inflation and rising interest rates are having on your lives.

With 102 services being delivered throughout the region, it is important to recognize the staff and volunteers who guide the day to day operations. Thank you for your dedication and providing excellent service to our community day in and day out.

I look forward to working alongside a great team, passionate board and considerate community who are all striving for what is best for the Comox Valley. By working together we can continue to make a difference.

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Jesse Ketter". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial 'J' and 'K'.



Exhibition Grounds



Vision Statement

The **Comox Valley Regional District** is a partnership of three electoral areas and three municipalities providing sustainable services for residents and visitors to the area. The local governments work collaboratively on services for the benefit of those living and visiting the diverse urban and rural areas of the Comox Valley.

What We Do

In 2023, **102 services** were delivered to residents in Courtenay, Comox, Cumberland, Electoral Areas A, B, and C including...

Water

Comox Valley Water Supply System – connecting **60,000** residents to clean, safe drinking water at an affordable price.



Sewer

Comox Valley Water Pollution Control Centre – ensuring that Comox and Courtenay's liquid waste is effectively managed to minimize environmental impacts and follow regulatory requirements.



Solid Waste

Comox Strathcona Waste Management Service – working to minimize waste, maximize recycling and environmental management of all residuals in the landfill.



Parks & Recreation

Managing and protecting electoral area community parks, forests, beaches and over 100 kilometres of trails. Supporting recreation facilities that encourage active, healthy lifestyles for all residents.



Comox Strathcona Regional Hospital District

CVRD provides strategic and administrative leadership and support for the Comox Strathcona Regional Hospital District, which is a capital funding partner with Island Health for health care services and infrastructure on central Vancouver Island.



North Island 9-1-1 Corporation

Corporation administered by the CVRD to manage the provision of 9-1-1 within the North Island.



We Are Three Electoral Areas & Three Municipalities

The Comox Valley boundaries extend north to the Oyster River, south to Cook Creek and west to Strathcona Park and includes Denman and Hornby Islands. The CVRD acknowledges that it is on the unceded territory of the K'ómoks First Nation.

Services provided vary from water, sewer and solid waste to street lighting and transit.



Each service or function is a stand-alone service. A five-year plan is prepared for each of the services.



Each service has its own revenue source and expenditure plan as well as reserves, debt and grant funds.



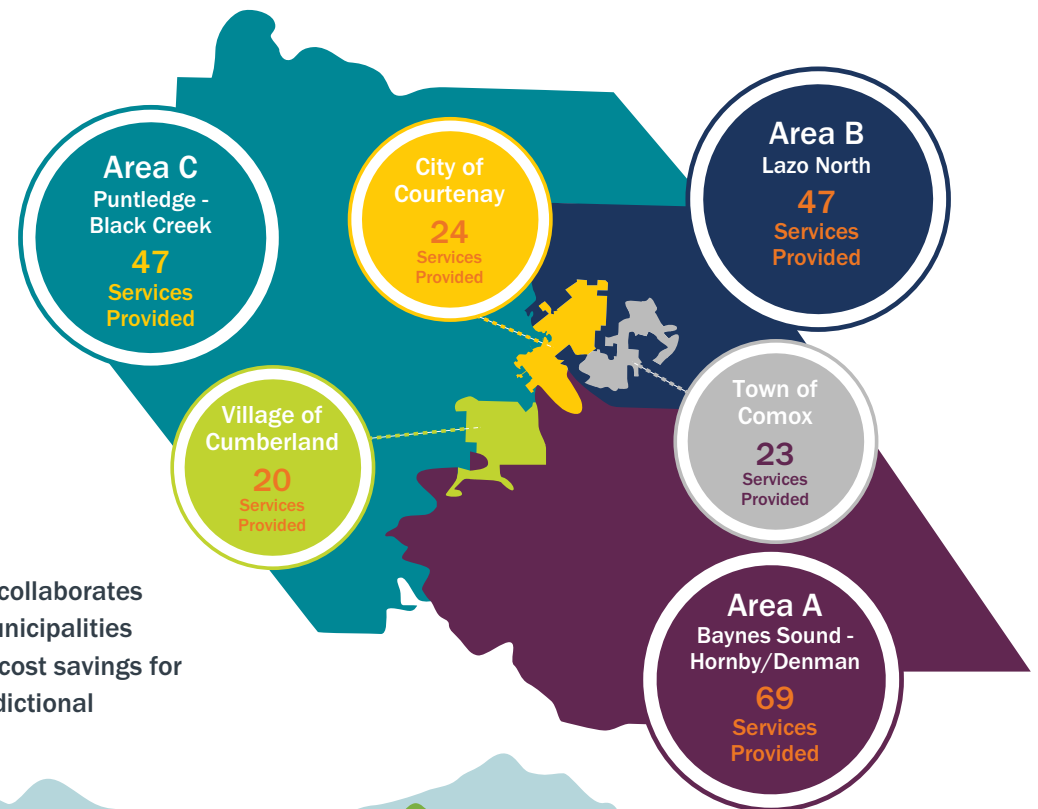
No ability to transfer funds from one service to another.



Only those municipalities or electoral areas that sign up for a service pay for the service.

The CVRD Board includes members of municipal council and electoral area directors who determine direction and approve all projects and expenditures in the best interest of every resident.

The CVRD collaborates with its municipalities to provide cost savings for cross-jurisdictional services.



Strategic Drivers

The CVRD Strategic and Financial Plans are guided by four key drivers:



Fiscal Responsibility

Careful management of services and assets is essential to providing affordable and reliable services to citizens and businesses in the CVRD.



Climate Crisis and Environmental Stewardship and Protection

The CVRD is committed to reducing our impact on the environment and ensuring we can adapt and respond to climate change impacts.



Community and Social Wellbeing

The social fabric of our communities, health and well-being of citizens, and community partnerships is ever present in guiding our service delivery.



Indigenous Relations

We are committed to reconciliation and relationship building with indigenous peoples and specifically K'ómoks First Nation (KFN).



View of Comox Valley glacier from farmers fields with snow geese flying overhead.



Strategic Planning at the CVRD

Strategic planning at the CVRD helps to identify the Board of Directors' goals and sets direction for the CVRD's service delivery. It is a process that is undertaken annually to guide work plans and decision-making for the coming year.

As 2022 was an election year, the normal timeline for strategic planning was revised, and the new Board of elected officials, elected in October, along with senior staff, will undertake a strategic planning session in June 2023.

In particular, the CVRD Board will focus on objectives for four key areas:

- **Housing**
- **Climate crisis**
- **Social development support**
- **Active transportation**

This planning session will build on the work of existing strategic and financial planning processes and further refine the Board's drivers, including an assessment of accessibility and identifying ways to reduce barriers to CVRD services and programs in the community.



Goals for 2023

1. **Regional Growth Strategy (RGS) Review**

Present scoping options, implications, and recommendations to the CVRD Board, and move forward with any Board directed next steps of review process.

2. **Sustainable Services for the South**

Continue ongoing efforts to present environmentally, financially and socially responsible options for water supply and sewage treatment in the southern communities.

3. **Agricultural Planning**

Support rural economic development and agricultural opportunities including land-use considerations and infrastructure investment potential.

4. **Watershed Management**

Develop a framework for watershed stewardship in the rural areas, with particular emphasis on K'ómoks First Nation priority interests on importance of water.

5. **Emergency Resilience**

Integrate emergency preparedness into regional model for coordinated planning and response; priority emphasis on disaster risk reduction looking at risk such as wildfire, flooding and extreme weather events.

6. **Recreation Services**

Define mid and long-term priorities for investing in aquatic, ice and playing field infrastructure.

For more information visit:

www.comoxvalleyrd.ca/strategicpriorities



Moving Forward Together on Reconciliation

With the support of our local government partners, the CVRD continues to pursue its goal of working together with the Indigenous community towards appropriate and meaningful action on Reconciliation. As governments at all levels look to implement the Truth and Reconciliation Commission's Calls to Action and the United Nation's Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, the CVRD has implemented an Indigenous Relations Framework and has completed a Reconciliation Assessment to help shape our work moving forward. While these foundational documents are hugely important, we know it is the actions that we take which will build the trust needed to move forward from the legacy of colonialism that continues to harm our community to this day.

Importantly, it is not the CVRD's intent to come to Indigenous communities with a plan already in place. Through our facilitator Wi'la'mola Consulting we began outreach to form an Advisory Group on Reconciliation for those interested in working with local governments as key advisors to guide us on this journey. On December 14, 2022, we hosted our first meeting with 12 representatives from First Nations, Indigenous community groups and local governments.

The participants and structure of the Advisory Group will be developed in collaboration through 2023 using a process founded in Indigenous culture and customs that provides a culturally safe space for Indigenous partners to participate. The CVRD recognizes this approach involves patience, time, and a commitment to participate in a collaborative process. This is a long-term project with no identified end date. Its purpose is to establish a



process for working together down the long road of reconciliation that will endure beyond election cycles and staffing changes.

2023 Workplan Highlights

- **Advance** Advisory Group on Reconciliation
- Continuing to **build partnerships** with K'ómoks First Nation
- **Review** existing bylaws, policies and processes through the lens of reconciliation
- Create a **multi-year training program** for staff
- Work towards establishing an **Indigenous Youth Internship Program**

Additional highlights on Indigenous Relations initiatives for 2022

included partnership projects with K'ómoks; implementing a territorial acknowledgement; updating language in corporate reports and communications; employee education initiatives including training, orientation and resource development; community cultural awareness; emergency program development and training, as well as recreation programming.

Core Services



Core Services

While CVRD has **102 independent functions in 2023**, for reporting purposes and defining vision and goals; **eight core services** focus the regional districts efforts:

Regional
Sustainability

Sewage Treatment

Water Supply

Finance and
Administration

Transportation

Regional Emergency
Services

Recreation

Electoral Area
Services

2022 CORE SERVICES AT WORK



3,331 calls dispatched

by North Island 9-1-1
to CVRD Fire departments



8 Number of partnered
RDs and clients



574,810
conventional rides

23,930
handyDART rides



188

contracts & agreements
in place at the CVRD

9,238

pool & ice
drop ins at the
Sports Centre



8,705

total recreation
program bookings



63,192

Facility
Bookings
(Sports/Aquatic
Centre)



15
conventional buses

9
handyDART buses



23,323

911 calls
received



1,192
program bookings
for ice



7,513
program bookings
for pools



201,877

pool drop ins
at the Aquatic Centre



16 conventional
transit routes

4 community bus
transit routes

2022 CORE SERVICES AT WORK



8,986,423
cubic meters of treated water
(or 3,595 Olympic pools)
within the Comox Valley



13,409
tonnes of
recyclables
received

from CV and CR –
across the scale only



7
Number of water
systems managed

(Black Creek\Oyster Bay; Comox Valley;
Comox Valley WLSA; Royston; Union Bay;
Denman Island; Graham Lake)



946
dog licences
purchased
within the Electoral Areas



276
building permits
within the Electoral Areas

1680
inspections
within the Electoral Areas



333
applications
within the Electoral Areas



220
Number of
bylaw complaints
received
within the Electoral Areas



65,537
Amount of landfilled garbage
received from CV and CR



8
facilities
CSRHD provides
funding for



122
planning
applications
within the Electoral Areas



5,225,210
cubic meters of
wastewater treated
(sewage)
within the Comox Valley



186,206
vehicles visiting CR and CV landfills
across the scale, excludes recycling areas



Core Services

Finance and Administration

Finance and Administration provides support services for: legislative, financial, personnel, communications, executive, information technology and administrative functions. In addition, it oversees borrowing for large scale projects and elections and public approval processes.

Key Service Outcomes

- Fiscal responsibility and management
- Quality information and communication for residents and businesses
- Social procurement
- Partnerships e.g. school district, Elected Officials Forum
- Community leadership (e.g. electric vehicle best practices)
- Maintain relationships with Indigenous peoples

Below chart built from the pre-existing initiatives. After the June 2023 board strategic planning session, the initiatives will be updated.

Key 2022–2023 Initiatives	Accomplished
Develop and introduce aspects of the financial stability/sustainable service delivery framework	Underway
Develop regional tourism strategy to prioritize investments and philosophy	Underway
Work with municipal partners on projects and initiatives from conception to delivery. Regular dialogue amongst Chief Administrative Officers, including relevant senior staff to advance projects of mutual interest and benefit, utilizing Elected Official Forums where appropriate to share information.	Ongoing
Advisory Group on Reconciliation: Establish a process for working together down the road of reconciliation that will go beyond election cycles and staffing changes	Ongoing



A Fresh Start to 2023

Following a successful local government election on October 15, 2022, the CVRD is moving into 2023 with an enthusiastic Board of elected officials that will play a key role in shaping the services and programs that support our communities. This includes involvement on several important administrative projects underway to better serve the Comox Valley.



Building a Brighter, More Connected Future

Did you know? The CVRD is actively implementing a plan to develop a fibre optic network. This involves laying an extensive, high-speed physical cable network to connect the CVRD's main facilities.

Through this improved communications network, the CVRD can increase information technology service delivery and security, create efficiencies, and save on future costs. It will help keep important services running optimally, including water and wastewater treatment and solid waste management.

To ensure fiscal responsibility, the fibre optic cable is being installed alongside road and other major CVRD infrastructure projects that cross or align with the planned route.

Fibre optics – often compared to transportation infrastructure, but for information – are a key asset to providing affordable and reliable services in the CVRD for years to come.

Economic Development Advancements

Through most of 2021, a review of the Economic Development Service was conducted by participant representatives to assess the regional approach to service delivery and determine the path forward.

In February 2022, the review process was completed and as a result, some important changes were implemented, including:

- The Economic Development Service has transitioned to the Comox Valley Tourism Service (focused on providing regional tourism information and destination marketing services); and
- Economic development services will now be undertaken individually by each local government.

The CVRD has contracted 4VI to deliver the regional Comox Valley Tourism Service until December 31, 2023. 4VI has been contracted to provide visitor information services and destination marketing for the Comox Valley. The priority this year is to developing a tourism strategy to identify the goals and actions of the new Comox Valley Tourism Service and support Comox Valley as a sustainable tourism destination into the future.

To learn more about economic development by jurisdiction, visit: www.comoxvalleyrd.ca/ecdev



*Horseback riding in
Seal Bay Park.*



Water Supply



Comox Valley Water Treatment Facility



Core Services

Water Supply

CVRD owns and operates the water supply system which provides treated water in bulk for 60,000 residents in Courtenay, Comox and parts of the surrounding electoral areas.

Water from Comox Lake is drawn from the Puntledge River, is filtered and then treated with chlorination and ultraviolet, and then flows through a network of reservoirs, pumping stations, and transmission mains or pipes.

Distribution to residents and businesses is managed by municipalities and individual electoral area water services.

Key Service Outcomes

- High quality water
- An adequate water supply to accommodate current and future demands
- Water conservation (reduction of per capita usage)
- Reliable and resilient infrastructure
- Source and infrastructure resiliency to climate change impacts
- Affordable water
- Positive K'ómoks First Nation relations regarding water supply
- Protected watersheds
- Reduced conflicts with watershed recreational users

Below chart built from the pre-existing initiatives. After the June 2023 board strategic planning session, the initiatives will be updated.

Key 2022–2023 Initiatives	Accomplished
Ongoing implementation of the Comox Lake Watershed Protection Plan	
1. Future use consideration of Coal Beach property	Ongoing
2. Perseverance Creek risk reduction	
Consideration of southern communities for expanded services (aligned with RGS goals and objectives)	Ongoing
Explore broader CVRD watershed protection (e.g. Langley Lake, Black Creek, Oyster Bay, Union Bay)	Ongoing

Celebrating One Year of Safe, Reliable Drinking Water

In September 2022, the CVRD celebrated the one-year anniversary of the grand opening of the new water treatment facility on Lake Trail Road. Since its launch, the new system has been operating smoothly – supplying fresh, filtered and fully disinfected drinking water to 50,000 residents in the Comox Valley.

Water Supply Wins

In 2022, the CVRD celebrated some big water wins:

- A secure supply of water in the Comox Valley Water System, despite an extended drought through the fall – a result of shifting the location of the water intake from the Puntledge River to Comox Lake.
- Successful repair of a leak in the transmission main that is the primary feed to the water system east of the Puntledge River.
- The Black Creek-Oyster Bay Water System, which services approximately 2,200 area residents, has water capacity concerns during peak usage times. To increase our level of confidence in the water supply and allow new connections, the CVRD is working toward building a new source well. In 2022, this well was designed and drilled, with a plan to construct the infrastructure to connect to the existing water treatment building in late 2023.
- Another year of successful water delivery to the Royston Water Local Service Area with annual preventative maintenance work completed.
- Conversion of the Graham Lake Improvement District to the new CVRD Graham Lake Water Service.
- One year of successful service delivery of the Union Bay Water Local Service Area, following the 2021 (July) conversion of water services from the Union Bay Improvement District to the CVRD.

The Road Ahead

- Water to South Region: Over the past year, the CVRD and its partners continued to lay the groundwork for design and construction of a new water main heading south. This water main would connect South Courtenay, Royston and the K'ómoks First Nation South Treaty Lands into the main Comox Valley Water System. There is some important work to be done on this project in 2023, including: finalizing agreements with project partners and starting detailed design.
- Master Planning: Also in 2023, the CVRD will lead development of a Water Master Plan for the Comox Valley Water System, in partnership with the City of Courtenay, Town of Comox and K'ómoks First Nation. The plan will take a holistic look at the water system, considering future growth of the communities, and will become the roadmap for this water system moving forward.

“We’re happy to share that over the past year, there has been a noticeable overall improvement in the distribution system - now that there is fresh, clean water running through it,” said Edwin Grieve, Water Committee Chair. “On top of these benefits, and important to all Comox Valley Water System users - 2022 saw zero turbidity-related boil water notices.”



WATER TREATMENT BY THE NUMBERS

9 million m³

Amount of water treated in 2022

(equal to approx. 3700 Olympic-sized swimming pools!)



5

Number of turbidity-related boil
water notices avoided in 2022

(due to new infrastructure and treatment process)



Comox Valley Water Treatment Facility
Serving 45,000 residents within the
Comox Valley.



Recreation





Core Services

Recreation

CVRD owns and operates the Comox Valley Aquatic Centre (pool facilities), Comox Valley Sports Centre (two ice sheets, wellness centre and pool facilities) and Comox Valley Curling Centre. Administration and operation oversight of the facilities and programs is delegated to the Comox Valley Recreation Commission.

The Commission undertook a strategic planning session early 2023. The session will help guide the path and capital development plans moving forward for the community.

Key Service Outcomes

- Supporting the health of citizens
- Managed assets
- Partnerships between jurisdictions and external stakeholders
- Connectivity to recreational services
- Accessibility to recreational services
- Volunteer engagement
- Cooperation with School District 71 facilities
- Greenhouse gas and environmental impact reduction
- Partnerships with K'ómoks First Nation and indigenous peoples

Below chart built from the pre-existing initiatives. After the June 2023 board strategic planning session, the initiatives will be updated.

Key 2022–2023 Initiatives	Accomplished
Recreation Commission undertaking strategic and capital planning early in 2023	Ongoing
Implementation of a low-income regional pass	Ongoing
Facility upgrades – construction/improvements at Sports Centre and during prolonged facility shut down at Aquatic Centre which includes energy reduction improvements such as switching to LED lighting, evaluating heat reclamation potential and acquisition of an electric ice resurfacing equipment, new sanitization system at aquatic centre and UV	✓
Exhibition Grounds be considered for expanded use for agriculture and outdoor recreation purposes	Ongoing
Regional grants administered through the Comox Valley Recreation Commission	✓

Planning Together for An Active Future

In 2022, collaborating with community partners and local governments, the CVRD achieved some key targets to help continue supporting healthy, active lifestyles for residents.

Long-Term Capital Planning

Key to this year were the completion of an Aquatics Strategy (in partnership with the City of Courtenay), an engagement process for ice-use planning and an assessment of local sports fields. With a good understanding of current facility status – and some options for improvements and expansions to come – this coming year will be one for fiscally responsible decisions and planning on next steps forward.

“Providing exceptional recreation services is a critical piece of the CVRD’s work and the progress made this year in long-range planning, will help us continue on a course of success in the coming year,” said Melanie McCollum, Chair of the Recreation Commission.



Getting More People Involved

Some programming improvements made it possible for more people to get involved in local recreation programs, including: revisions to ice schedules, which allowed for growth of a community-based hockey league; and the implementation of a low-income access pass. The recreation services team also managed the transition of the swim lesson programs from Red Cross to the Lifesaving Society program – which adds more training on water safety in lakes, beaches and rivers.

Taking Care of Facilities

A critical improvement to the Aquatic Centre was completed with the addition of ozone to the water sanitation system – an addition that has hugely improved the water quality at this facility. The Comox Valley Sports Centre Pool underwent six months of closures when a significant leak was found during the summer seasonal maintenance shutdown. The pool basin rehabilitation was completed in early 2023 – reopening this well-loved facility to the public again.

Looking Ahead

The CVRD will continue with these important initiatives into 2023:

- **Long-term capital infrastructure planning:** The Comox Valley Recreation Commission will consider options for the future of the CVRD’s aquatic, ice and sports field facilities.
- **Caring for current facilities:** Upgrades and maintenance will continue for current facilities, including the replacement of the filtration system at the Aquatic Centre and renovation of the Farmer’s Market field at the Exhibition Grounds.
- **Growing the access pass system:** The CVRD will continue working towards implementing a regional pass for communities.

For more information visit: www.comoxvalleyrd.ca/recstratplan



Skating at the Comox Valley Sports Centre

Regional Sustainability





Core Services

Regional Sustainability

The Comox Valley Regional Growth Strategy (RGS), adopted in 2011, promotes human settlement that is socially, economically and environmentally healthy and makes efficient use of public facilities and services, land and other resources. In addition, one of the intents of the RGS and Regional Sustainability priority is to provide a mechanism for regional collaboration.

Covering eight goals related to: housing; ecosystems, natural areas and parks; local economic development; transportation; infrastructure; food systems; public health and safety; and climate change.

Regional Sustainability and the RGS provide broad opportunity for data collection, monitoring and reporting to support regional district, municipal and senior government decision-making and public awareness and education.

Key Service Outcomes

- Settlement that is socially, economically, environmentally healthy
- Housing supply for current and future needs
- Affordable housing
- Affordable servicing
- Partnerships with K'ómoks First Nation and other organizations
- Improved air quality
- RGS monitoring and evaluation
- Planning and implementation for climate change
- Robust and resilient food system

Below chart built from the pre-existing initiatives. After the June 2023 board strategic planning session, the initiatives will be updated.

Key 2022–2023 Initiatives	Accomplished
Education and public awareness to promote improvements to Comox Valley air quality	Ongoing
Review of the RGS (scoping)	Ongoing
Use of RGS Technical Advisory Committee to collaborate on regional interests	Ongoing
Exploring potential for regional food hub	Ongoing
Evaluation and reporting framework (dashboard) and data collection; integrating RGS principles with climate crisis response	✓
Climate change mitigation and adaptation planning (across services, work with municipalities)	Ongoing
Poverty Reduction Strategy	Underway
Regional Parks – Service established in 2022	✓



A Shared Vision for the Future

Understanding Community Greenhouse Gas Emissions

One of the eight key goals of the RGS strives to minimize regional greenhouse gas (GHG) Emissions. This focus is enforced through the Board's strategic driver of climate crisis and environmental stewardship and protection.

One way the CVRD is taking steps to achieve this goal is through measuring and reporting on (GHG) emissions. In May 2022, the CVRD presented the GHG inventory for the electoral areas, which provides high-quality local data on the Comox Valley's community-wide GHG emissions. Next steps will include:

- Developing a plan for community outreach to relevant stakeholders in the community; and
- Considering specific climate mitigation efforts and strategies in the electoral areas

Looking to review Electoral Area GHG emissions data?

Visit: www.comoxvalleyrd.ca/climatechange

Collecting Performance Data

In January 2023, the CVRD launched the RGS Performance Monitoring Dashboard, to help monitor and track the progress of the eight Regional Growth Strategy goals.

Through the dashboard, residents can learn more about the objectives for each goal, see specific data and identify steps to take to help achieve some of the goals. For example, is the CVRD making progress on reducing GHG emissions in the solid waste sector? Is there traction towards increasing the number of pedestrians and cyclists in the Comox Valley?

"This dashboard serves as an important tool to support municipal and regional decision-making and action," said Jessie Ketler, CVRD Board Chair. "We look forward to having access to real-time data to better understand where we're having success with RGS implementation and where we might need to direct further attention."

To view the dashboard visit: www.comoxvalleyrd.ca/RGS

Sewage Treatment



Comox Valley Water Pollution
Control Centre



Core Services

Sewage Treatment

CVRD owns and operates conveyance and treatment infrastructure for wastewater from the communities of Courtenay, Comox, CFB Comox (19 Wing), and K'ómoks First Nation (by service contract). The Comox Valley Water Pollution Control Centre (CVWPCC), commissioned in 1984, is a secondary wastewater treatment facility. The CVRD Board delegates operational and administrative decisions to the Comox Valley Sewage Commission.

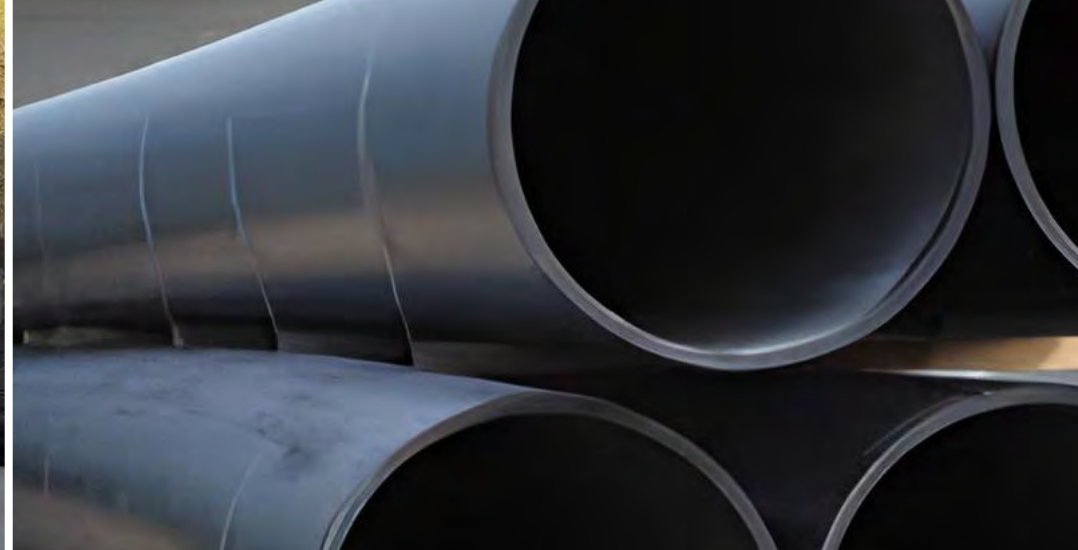
The CVRD also provides liquid waste management planning on sewer and septic matters in the electoral areas.

Key Service Outcomes

- Managed assets
- Affordable service
- Infrastructure resiliency to climate change impacts
- Partnerships with K'ómoks First Nation
- Reduced storm water infiltration
- Willemar Bluff risk reduction

Below chart built from the pre-existing initiatives. After the June 2023 board strategic planning session, the initiatives will be updated.

Key 2022–2023 Initiatives	Accomplished
Comox Valley Liquid Waste Management Planning (LWMP) for conveyance, treatment and resource recovery	Ongoing
Comox Valley Sewer Conveyance Project	Ongoing
Upgrades and equipment at the Sewage Treatment Plant to address odour, good neighbour, operations	✓
Advance collaborative sewer services, in particular through decisions to treat wastewater from Royston and Union Bay at the sewage treatment plant	Ongoing



Big Plans for Big Pipes: The Comox Valley Sewer Conveyance Project

The Comox Valley Sewer Conveyance Project is a complex, multi-year construction project, critical to protecting our coastline and preparing for future growth in the Comox Valley. The project will replace pipes and upgrade pump stations that move more than 14,000 cubic metres of raw sewage each day to the sewage treatment plant on Brent Road.

2022 saw important preliminary work completed in preparation for construction including the Sewage Commission's approval of the project scope and sewer pipeline route, management planning, archaeological investigations, and regulatory permits.

The CVRD and K'ómoks First Nation are committed to working together on sewer planning for the region. A Community Benefit Agreement, signed in 2021, paved the way forward for collaborative engagement on the Conveyance Project. Highlights in 2022 include:

- Ongoing dialogue with K'ómoks First Nation Chief and Council and implementation of the Community Benefit Agreement;

- Collaborating on mitigation plans and obtaining archaeological permits through the Cultural Heritage Policy;
- Meetings with lands committee and K'ómoks First Nation members to share plans for archaeological work, traffic management and construction.

Community Engagement

There were several public touchpoints throughout 2022 to help prepare the public for upcoming construction and address specific concerns, including:

- Engagement with Lazo Area residents on project plans for the route alignment and groundwater protection through Lazo Hill;
- Online survey and in-person meetings to gather feedback on traffic management planning;
- Public Open Houses in Courtenay and Comox to bring the public up to speed on plans to date and collect feedback.

“Working collaboratively to ensure proper handling of cultural heritage sites is key to building on our relationship with the K’ómoks First Nation” said Doug Hillian, Chair of the Sewage Commission, “The CVRD is committed to properly implementing the K’ómoks Cultural Heritage Policy over the course of this project.”

Protecting Archaeologically Sensitive Areas

Archaeological investigations are a crucial part of the CVRD’s due diligence, to ensure further impacts to archeological sites in the Comox Valley are mitigated.

In November 2022, borehole drilling work began along select sections of the forcemain route that are within areas of high potential. This important preparatory work allows the CVRD to assess currently recorded archaeological site boundaries, and the extent of any culturally sensitive materials within the forcemain footprint.

Coming Down the Pipe in 2023

- **Design-Build Contract Award:** The procurement process will be complete in 2023 with award of a design-build contract to the successful proponent.
- **Alternative Approval Process:** An Alternative Approval Process will be held in 2023 or 2024 to seek consent from electors for a funding path forward.

Public Engagement: In fall 2023 and early 2024, community outreach will ramp up to prepare the public for a spring 2024 construction start.





A Regional Approach to Wastewater Treatment

The Sewer Extension South Project made critical progress in 2022, bringing Royston and Union Bay closer to a community sewer service. Once complete, the new system will create a regional approach for the treatment of wastewater, moving wastewater from homes and businesses in Union Bay and Royston through a new sewer pipe connected to the Comox Valley Sewer Service. This new regional system will also serve Union Bay Estates and K'ómoks First Nation lands, for which development and economic growth will be an important part of reconciliation.

Key Project Drivers

This project will solve ongoing issues in the affected communities and provide many important benefits such as:

- Replacing aging and failing septic systems in Royston and Union Bay, which are creating environmental, social and economic risks;
- Advancing reconciliation with K'ómoks First Nation through the environmental protection of Baynes Sound and supporting economic independence and prosperity;
- Planning for anticipated growth in the area, including development of Union Bay Estates and K'ómoks lands to the south.

Project Progress in 2022

- **Liquid Waste Management Plan Addendum:** In June, the Electoral Areas Services Committee decided to roll planning for this project into the long-term plan for the Comox Valley Sewer Service, including undertaking an addendum to the Comox Valley Sewer Service Liquid Waste Management Plan.
- **Formation of Advisory Committees:** The Liquid Waste Management Plan requires extensive public consultation and technical analysis at all steps along the way. In September, a public and technical advisory committee was formed to review information and provide feedback/comment.

- **Community Updates:** Throughout the year, direct-mail letters were distributed to residents, informing them of the next steps and how to get involved.

“This project exemplifies the value of working together. Our partnership with K'ómoks First Nation, the municipalities, Union Bay Estates, and the communities of Royston and Union Bay demonstrate the value of collaboration and thoughtful planning,” explains Electoral Area A Director Daniel Arbour.

What's to Come

With 30 million dollars in provincial funding secured the public and technical advisory committee will continue reviewing and considering proposed plans. Once planning is complete, recommendations will be passed along to elected officials for consideration.

Public engagement will play a large part in project planning through early 2024. In-person and virtual open houses are planned to consult the community on the path forward in early summer. Public feedback will be important when considering traffic management, costs, project phasing and design of new pump stations – and will be incorporated into the final plan.

For more information on this initiative visit:

www.comoxvalleyrd.ca/sewerextension

The Future of Liquid Waste in the Comox Valley

After several years and a lot of hard work, the plan for the future of the Comox Valley Sewer System is nearing the finish line. The Liquid Waste Management Plan (LWMP), which was started in 2018, will ensure that the CVRD is prepared for community growth and that we're protecting our natural environment well into the future.

In early 2023 the project team submitted the draft plan to the Province for review and approval as the second phase of the three step LWMP process.

What's Coming Up

Here's what's to come as this planning process is completed over the next two years:

- Summer 2023: Provincial approval of Stage 2 plan.
- Fall/Winter 2023: CVRD drafts Stage 3 plan, including financing and implementation schedule.
- Fall 2024: Stage 3 LWMP is submitted to the Province.
- Mid-2024: Provincial approval of Comox Valley Sewer Service LWMP.

During the planning process, a need was identified to replace the sewer pipes and pump stations that move raw sewage to the treatment plant. Because of the urgency to protect the foreshore from the risk of these aging pipes, this work is now moving forward. Construction on the Comox Valley Sewer Conveyance Project, is planned to start in spring 2024 (see page 35).

The new system will route sewer pipes further inland to protect the beaches and waters throughout the Comox Estuary, Point Holmes, Goose Spit coastline, as well as Baynes Sound.

To learn more about the LWMP process visit: www.comoxvalleyrd.ca/LWMP



Treatment Plant Master Planning

In 2022, the CVRD started a site master planning process, to determine the best path forward for the Comox Valley Water Pollution Control Centre, a critical piece of infrastructure that is now 40 years old. This plan includes condition assessments of key infrastructure and development of a staged expansion plan for the facility. This planning process will wrap up in 2023 with some final studies.

“With a growing Comox Valley population and forecast of increased sewer flows, developing a roadmap for facility plans over the next 50 years is necessary work,” said Doug Hillian, Chair of the Sewage Commission. “It is also a crucial part of the CVRD’s commitment to fiscal responsibility and environmental stewardship.”

This master plan is especially important with plans underway for the Sewer Extension South Project, which would connect Royston and Union Bay to the Comox Valley Sewer Service.



Comox Valley Water Pollution Control
Centre Equalization Basin

Regional Emergency Services



Fracture on Fifth Emergency
Operations Centre



Core Services

Regional Emergency Services

CVRD Regional Emergency Services provides Comox Valley wide collaboration and coordination of emergency management under the four pillars of emergency management – mitigation/prevention, preparedness, response and recovery.

The Emergency Services support the activation and operations of the regional emergency operation centre in emergency situations.

Several rural and community fire department services (under a volunteer fire fighter model) are delivered through CVRD.

Key Service Outcomes

- Emergency prevention and mitigation
- Emergency operations centre preparedness
- Business and resident emergency preparedness
- Support staff and volunteers who assist the emergency programs and emergency services
- K'ómoks First Nation partnerships, engagement and bridging
- Emergency food supply preparedness

Below chart built from the pre-existing initiatives. After the June 2023 board strategic planning session, the initiatives will be updated.

Key 2022–2023 Initiatives	Accomplished
Completion of the new Regional Emergency Operations Centre (EOC) - developing, training, and implementing the EOC personnel plan capable of filling three shifts for a stage 3 activation	Ongoing
Conduct the 2022 earthquake emergency exercise (Fracture on Fifth)	✓
Completion of Merville Fire Services Building	✓
Approval for Mount Washington Fire Service Building	Ongoing
Community Fire Smart Program and wildfire protection planning	Ongoing
Develop a Regional Emergency Program Service delivery model (incorporating EOC After Action Report findings)	Ongoing



Working Together Through Emergency Preparedness in the Comox Valley

Fracture on 5th: Earthquake Training Exercise

In September 2022, the Comox Valley Emergency Program hosted “Fracture on 5th”, a regional emergency earthquake full scale training exercise. The exercise allowed staff and volunteers to gain experience activating a regional Emergency Operations Centre and to practice operational procedures and communications systems in a controlled and safe learning environment.

Benefits at a glance:

- Trained 200+ staff and volunteers;
- Created an ‘After Action Report’ to provide recommendations;
- Developed Get Prepared education materials;
- Promoted the CVRD Board’s community partnerships goals of regional collaboration and teamwork.

Learn more at www.comoxvalleyrd.ca/fracturefifth

Building Community Resilience

Over the past year, the Comox Valley Emergency Program reimagined as a regional Neighbourhood Emergency Preparedness Program (NEPP) to provide Comox Valley residents with key tools and guidance on how to weave emergency preparedness and disaster resilience into their neighbourhoods. **Several information sessions were co-delivered in the community alongside fire services, emergency program partners and volunteers** who supported neighbours from all over the valley to come together and learn how best to care for one another when a hazard or disaster strikes. NEPP can be a standalone resident-driven initiative or can be integrated into existing programs like neighborhood watch, community gardens or as part of a FireSmart initiative.

“This program was identified as a key initiative by the Board and we’re thrilled to see it launch,” said Will Cole-Hamilton, Vice-Chair of the CVRD Board of Directors, “It’s an important program for bringing people together, building a disaster-resilient community and improving social wellbeing in the Comox Valley.”

To view the dashboard visit: www.comoxvalleyrd.ca/nepp

Keeping Residents Safe in Extreme Weather

Extreme weather events are becoming more frequent in the Comox Valley and 2022 was no exception. The Comox Valley Emergency Program (CVEP) was able to keep people safe during severe weather events this past year through advanced regional planning initiatives and coordinated community partnerships:

- **Warming Centres:** In response to an unprecedented cold spell in January 2022, CVEP opened a temporary Extreme Weather Warming Centre that provided safe, overnight accommodations for 370 visitors. Generous donations from local businesses made it possible to offer fresh food and last-minute essentials.
- **Cooling Stations:** July and August 2022 saw several heat warning events with high temperatures initiating the opening of regional drop-in cooling stations in civic and recreation facilities across the valley, including the CVRD's Sports and the Aquatic Centres. CVEP continued to partner with outreach services to ensure vulnerable populations were able to access nearby cooling services.

For more information on how to get prepared, visit www.comoxvalleyrd.ca/emergency



Transportation





Core Services

Transportation

The key focus area for Transportation include improved mobility options for citizens, reducing GHG emissions, and providing convenient, affordable, safe alternatives to automobiles within the community. The Comox Valley Transit System, in partnership with BC Transit, forms a large component of the CVRD's approach to transportation.

Key Service Outcomes

- Affordable fares
- Access equity
- Greenhouse gas reduction
- Alternative services in rural areas
- Access for high need users to services (e.g. food bank, farmers market)
- Integration with School District 71 student transportation needs
- Mode shift from single occupancy vehicles to alternative modes

Below chart built from the pre-existing initiatives. After the June 2023 board strategic planning session, the initiatives will be updated.

Key 2022–2023 Initiatives	Accomplished
Annual Transit Improvement Plans based on BC Transit and local input	✓
Development of a Transit Future Action Plan to: <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. review mode share targets and service levels2. local government land use and transportation plans and3. identify future service and infrastructure needs and cost implications	✓
Transportation Alternatives Assessment (mobility primer)	✓

On a Roll with Transit Planning

In the Comox Valley, the CVRD is responsible for administering the transit service and establishing mobility priorities based on the community's needs. This is a big responsibility, especially as the future of transit is quickly changing.

In 2022, a number of studies, reviews and plans were completed to look at options for improved services, emerging needs and future investment. These guiding documents represent important steps towards meeting the Board's environmental stewardship and fiscal responsibility strategic drivers. They will pave the way for action and growth in 2023 and beyond:

- **Transit Future Action Plan:** The CVRD and BC Transit use a transit future plan to guide development and future investment in the Comox Valley. This 25-year plan was reviewed and updated in 2022, identifying transit service improvement priorities and several transit service concepts to investigate.
- **Comox Valley Mobility Primer:** The CVRD is interested in adapting to new and innovative mobility technologies, policies and infrastructure. This document will act as a guide to explore more effective and sustainable ways to meet day-to-day transportation needs.
- **Transit Infrastructure Study and Transit Operations Facility Study:** These studies identified key capital improvements that are needed to support continued growth in the transit system.

"In 2022, we saw a significant increase in transit system users, with ridership recovery surpassing pre-pandemic levels by the end of the year," said Wendy Morin, CVRD Director, "The CVRD and our partner BC Transit, look forward to seeing this growth continue in 2023."



Turning the Transportation Wheel into 2023

BC Transit is launching a new electronic fare collection system on Comox Valley Regional Transit. This will enable customers to pay with a mobile app, reloadable smart card, or credit/debit tap.

- Advancing BC Transit infrastructure projects and seeking grant funding
- Undertaking a BC Transit fare review/update
- Advancing projects from the regional Active Transportation Network Plan.



BC TRANSIT BY THE NUMBERS



574,810

Conventional Rides

for 2021/2022 BC Transit fiscal year



23,930

HandyDART Rides

for 2021/2022 BC Transit fiscal year

1

New Route

added along Back Road

**Additional
Trips Added**

along routes No. 1, 10 and 12

Electoral Area Services





Core Services

Electoral Area Services

CVRD delivers local government and services to electoral areas (street lighting, planning, grants-in-aid, fire protection, building inspection, bylaw compliance, water distribution, Islands-based services, parks, heritage conservation, community hall supports, and more).

Electoral area directors advocate for services with the CVRD itself, senior government and other stakeholders.

Key Service Outcomes

- Local government for rural areas
- Advocating for equitable and appropriate service delivery
- Infrastructure and community resiliency
- Responding to and partnering with community groups and residents

Below chart built from the pre-existing initiatives. After the June 2023 board strategic planning session, the initiatives will be updated.

Key 2022–2023 Initiatives	Accomplished
Analysis for rural roadside garbage, recycling, and organics collection through regional solid waste plan review	Ongoing
Septic regulation/education (continued investigation)	Ongoing
Agricultural planning: Exploring potential for regional food hub	Ongoing
Official Community Plan updates: Saratoga settlement node (operational)	Ongoing
Official Community Plan updates: Development permit revisions (operational)	2023
Building inspection department to: <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. pursue software that promotes virtual operations and remote procedures2. rewrite building inspection bylaw for clarity	Ongoing
Parks and Greenways Strategic Implementation	Ongoing



Enjoying electoral area parks.

Advancing Community Well-Being in the Electoral Areas

In 2022, the CVRD's three electoral areas (Areas A, B and C) saw an outstanding amount of work completed towards two of the Board's key priorities: improving the day-to-day lives and health and well-being of citizens; and protecting our natural environment.

Improving Fire Services

Over the past few years, a fire training centre has been undergoing construction on Hornby Island. This new facility was identified as a key tool for Hornby Island Fire Rescue to train members on-island and teach them practical skills at a high standard. The training building is now complete, with upcoming work planned to finish outside training aids.

In July 2022, the CVRD celebrated the official opening of the Merville Fire

Hall. This new facility, equipped with fire trucks, fire services tools/equipment and 25 fully-trained volunteers, will provide improved life-safety for residents, possible reduction in fire premiums for some residents and ability to deliver a medical first responder program.

Building Agriculture Connections

In 2022, the electoral areas engaged an Agriculture Coordinator to support the Agriculture Plan work as well as serve as a liaison between the CVRD, the agriculture community, and the Ministry of Agriculture and Food. Building these relationships will help the CVRD to remain connected with agriculture producers and help grow this important sector of our local economy.

Bringing Connectivity to the Islands

Currently, homes and businesses on Hornby and Denman Islands do not have access to high-speed internet. This is about to change with implementation of a new service that will provide fast, reliable connectivity to the islands. CityWest, the telecommunications service provider, is now installing the fibre-optic infrastructure, which will be completed in 2023.





Expanding CVRD Parks

The CVRD manages 65 electoral area community parks, plus many beach accesses and trails. 2022 was an exciting year for parks, with the addition of two large natural areas, both with high conservation values.

- **Building a Legacy:** In September 2022, the CVRD received a generous donation of 40 acres for use as a park. The oceanfront property, located in the Merville area, was donated through the Ecological Gifts Program, and will be managed with conservation as its focus.
- **Extending the One Spot Trail:** A 75-acre property, acquired through the Electoral Area Community Parks and Greenways service, will support extending the One Spot Trail 4.5 kilometers further north towards Endall Road. It will also support the protection of a sensitive bog ecosystem. In 2023, the CVRD will finalize management options for this important site.

“The acquisition of these natural areas aligns well with the CVRD’s environmental stewardship objectives: to protect nature and leave a legacy for future generations,” said Richard Hardy, Chair of the Electoral Areas Services Committee.



Funding the Region's Most Critical Facilities

COMOX STRATHCONA
REGIONAL HOSPITAL DISTRICT



The Comox-Strathcona Regional Hospital District (CSRHD) provides capital funding to Island Health-operated health care facilities in the CVRD and Strathcona Regional District regions. Capital funding is cost-shared with the provincial government, with the CSRHD providing 40 per cent. Included in the responsibilities of the regional hospital district are the goals:

- to establish, acquire, construct, reconstruct, enlarge, operate and maintain hospitals and hospital facilities;
- to grant aid for the establishment, acquisition, reconstruction, enlargement, operation and maintenance of hospitals and hospital facilities.



Over the past year, the CSRHD has focused attention on funding three new priorities, which will continue to take shape into 2023:

Comox Valley Community Services Hub

The CSRHD and Island Health are currently exploring the potential for partnering on a Community Services Hub in the Comox Valley. This hub would see several of Island Health's spaces, now located in different offices around the Comox Valley, moved into a single, purpose-built facility where patients could receive a more comprehensive medical response. This proposed single location would offer an optimal level of support, through collaboration on patient case files and less travel for those seeking care.



Campbell River Long-Term Care Facility

In May 2022, the CSRHD approved cost sharing with Island Health for a proposed long-term care facility in Campbell River. This will be a vital addition to the community, given that Campbell River experiences some of the longest wait times on Vancouver Island for a local placement and has a very low number of spaces available for long-term care. Investing in long-term care also frees up valuable space in acute care facilities such as the Comox Valley and Campbell River hospitals.

Rural, Remote and Indigenous Health Care Clinics

In September 2022, the CSRHD Board made steps towards funding more health facilities in rural, remote and Indigenous communities. This includes approving plans to evolve and expand grants for clinics in 10 communities across the service area.

Grant funding would be used for minor equipment purchases and renovations by the clinics – invaluable facilities that allow community members to receive services close to home. The goal is for approved facilities to start receive funding in 2023.

To learn more about the CSRHD and ongoing projects, visit: www.csrhd.ca

“Each of these initiatives are important to uplifting and improving the lives of some of our community's most vulnerable populations,” said Doug Hillian, Chair of the CSRHD, “Community partnerships are a key strategic driver for the CVRD and we look forward to building on them further in 2023.”

Investing in the Future of Waste Management

With major investments in the new food and yard waste program and in critical infrastructure to accommodate our growing communities, 2022 proved to be a capital-intensive year for the Comox Strathcona Waste Management (CSWM) service, with investments totaling approximately \$46.5 million.



COMMUNITY & SCHOOL EDUCATION BY THE NUMBERS

In 2022, CSWM offered in-person outreach events to inform the community, including: education at recycling depots, community clean-up events and awareness campaigns focused on illegal dumping, food waste, as well as packaging and household waste diversion. In collaboration with CSWM staff, through the School Curriculum Educator:

 **1,400**

Students and teachers engaged
through the Curriculum Educator
during the 2021-2022 school year

 **3,784**

Students and teachers engaged
through landfill tours

For the 2021/2022 school year, CSWM supported teachers with waste diversion program offerings in school districts 71, 72, and 84, including in-person landfill tours:

 **1,826**

Rural residents engaged
at 24 in-person events

 **2,800**

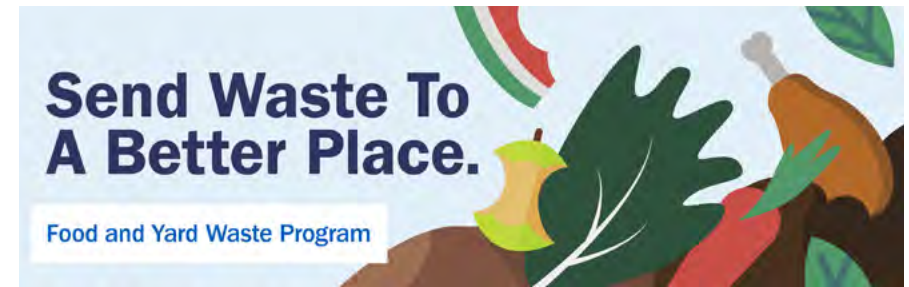
Urban residents engaged at
24 in-person events

Closing Doors to Open New Ones

The landfill at the Campbell River Waste Management Centre (CRWMC), operational prior to the 1970s, officially closed its doors in May 2022 having reached its full capacity. Majority of the work to finalize the closure was completed through 2022, including the installation of a liner system and landfill gas collection system, with the commissioning of the flare in 2023. This site will continue to operate as a solid waste transfer station, with garbage to be consolidated and transported to the Comox Valley Waste Management Centre (CVWMC) in Cumberland. While garbage will be headed south, organics will head north on the backhaul to the new regional composting facility in Campbell River, fully operational in 2023.

Due to this projected increase in the transfer of waste (previously landfilled at the CRWMC landfill), the Cumberland facility is undergoing a lateral expansion of its engineered landfill to ensure sufficient capacity to meet growing regional waste disposal demands. This includes the installation of key environmental protection measures:

1. a multilayer engineered liner system designed to collect leachate to keep ground and surface water safe; and
2. a network of gas collection system designed to capture landfill gas for beneficial use.



Advancing Green Goals

Starting early 2023, a curbside organics collection service was introduced or expanded to pick up food and yard waste for over 30,000 residents in Campbell River, City of Courtenay, Town of Comox and Village of Cumberland. Participating residents received kitchen bins along with informational material about collection program and accepted materials.

“The Regional Organics Project is a strategic priority of the CSWM Board that is critical to advancing the waste diversion goals outlined in the current Solid Waste Management Plan,” said CSWM Co-Chair Will Cole-Hamilton. “We look forward to seeing the implementation and resulting benefits of this program take shape.”

As identified in the 2012 CSWM Solid Waste Management Plan, this new program is critical in advancing the CSWM’s diversion goals in the area of climate crisis and environmental stewardship and protection. Specific benefits include:

- Diverting approximately 30 per cent of collected waste and extending the life of the landfill by preserving valuable airspace
- Reducing the creation of harmful greenhouse gases
- Creating finished compost for agricultural and landscaping use

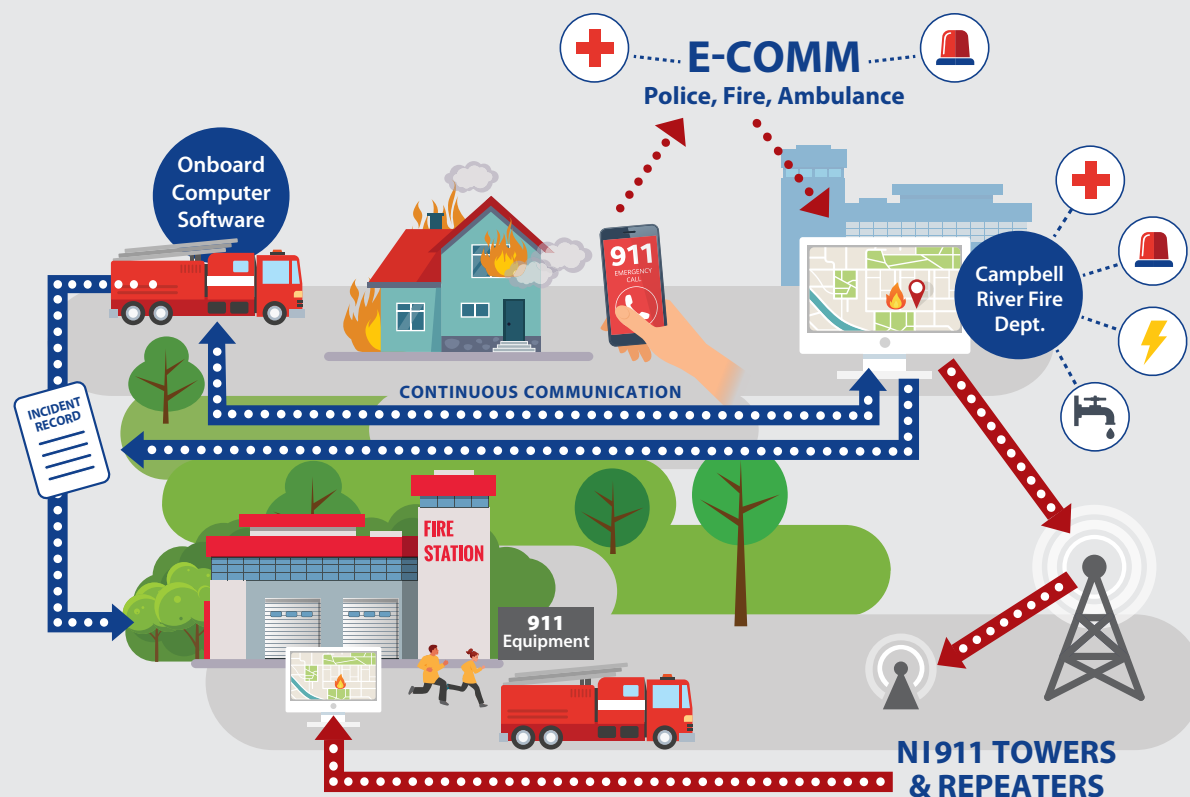
Learn more about this project at: www.cswm.ca/compost

North Island 9-1-1 Corporation: Going Digital



In 2022, the North Island 9-1-1 Corporation (NI9-1-1) completed groundwork for key digital upgrades, which will bring the service into the modern era and make it possible to provide additional details about emergency situations.

NI9-1-1 provides 9-1-1 services including, receiving and dispatching calls for police, fire and ambulance to the Comox Valley, Strathcona, Mount Waddington, Alberni-Clayoquot, qathet and (portions of) Nanaimo regional districts. NI9-1-1 also provides fire dispatch to 80 fire departments across eight regional districts including the above shareholder regional districts as well as Peace River and Cowichan Valley Regional Districts through a contract for service.



Preparing for Next Generation 9-1-1

Currently, emergency services do not benefit from modern telecommunications tools, like text messages, videos and photos. To solve this, the Government of Canada through the Canadian Radio-Television Commission has directed all phone and cell service companies to update their networks from analog to digital by March 2025.

These expanded services are called next-generation 9-1-1 (NG9-1-1) services, and will allow NI9-1-1's call centre to receive voice and text messages and other important data in an emergency. This network will also ensure that residents have access to a secure, reliable and resilient network for emergency calls.

Currently, NI9-1-1 is preparing the emergency call centre in Campbell River to be ready to receive and dispatch calls under NG9-1-1. This call centre, operated and managed by the City of Campbell River, provides fire dispatch services to the 51 fire departments in the service area.

Achievements in 2022

- Over the past few years, NI9-1-1 has been installing the information technology infrastructure necessary for the fire dispatch centre to run through this digital network. In 2022, the installation of most of the hardware and software 'connection' pieces was completed.
- With NG9-1-1, multimedia sharing is made possible through an ESInet – a private network that enables emergency services and data communications. One of the first pieces of the puzzle was establishing this new network to connect with the NG9-1-1 software. This was successfully completed in 2022, with NI9-1-1 as one of the first to get it up-and-running.
- Following this, a new digital call handling system was installed and integrated into the fire dispatch system.

Moving Forward

- In 2023, Telus's NG9-1-1 team and NI9-1-1's software vendors will work together to prepare and test systems for handling the new digital calls. Testing and final steps to prepare for implementation of NG9-1-1 will continue through the year.
- The NI9-1-1 Corporation expects to be fully switched over to the new network by 2025.

"Offering these improved emergency services will allow emergency responders to provide safer, faster and more informed support to residents in the north island service area," said Ken Grant, President of the North Island 9-1-1 Corporation. "Being able to more quickly and effectively relay life-saving information to first responders will play a key role in improving the overall well-being of our residents."



2022 Financials

Management's Responsibility for Financial Reporting

These summarized financial statements have been prepared by management from the complete financial statements for inclusion in this annual report. They provide a high level financial overview of the regional district's financial position and the results of its operations for the year ended December 31, 2022.

Management maintains a system of internal controls to provide reasonable assurance that assets are safeguarded and that transactions are authorized, recorded and reported accurately. Management also maintains a program of proper business compliance. The Board of Directors is responsible for reviewing and approving the financial statements and for ensuring that management fulfills its responsibilities for financial reporting and internal control.

MNP LLP, Chartered Professional Accountants, the regional district's independent auditor, conducts an examination of the financial statements in accordance with Canadian generally accepted auditing standards and expresses an opinion in the auditor's report, which accompanies the complete audited financial statements available at the regional district office or online at www.comoxvalleyrd.ca.



L. Wiwcharuk

L. Wiwcharuk, CPA, CMA

Officer responsible for Financial Administration,
pursuant to Section 237 of the Local Government Act

2022 Financials

To the Board of Directors of the Comox Valley Regional District:

Opinion

The summarized financial statements, which comprise the summarized statement of financial position as at December 31, 2022 and the summarized statements of operations and cash flows for the year then ended, are derived from the audited financial statements of the Comox Valley Regional District as at and for the year ended December 31, 2022.

In our opinion, the accompanying summarized financial statements are a fair summary of the audited financial statements, in accordance with Canadian public sector accounting standards.

Summarized Financial Statements

The summarized financial statements do not contain all the disclosures required by Canadian public sector accounting standards. Reading the

summarized financial statements and the auditor's report thereon, therefore, is not a substitute for reading the audited financial statements and the auditor's report thereon. The summarized financial statements and the audited financial statements do not reflect the effects of events that occurred subsequent to the date of our report on the audited financial statements.

The Audited Financial Statements and our Report Thereon

We expressed an unmodified opinion on the audited financial statements in our report dated May 9, 2023.

Management's Responsibility for the Summarized Financial Statements

Management is responsible for the preparation of the summarized financial statements in accordance with management's criteria for aggregation of the balances.

Independent Auditor's Report on the Summarized Financial Statements

Auditor's Responsibility

Our responsibility is to express an opinion on whether the summarized financial statements are a fair summary of the audited financial statements based on our procedures, which were conducted in accordance with Canadian Auditing Standard 810, Engagements to Report on Summary Financial Statements.

Courtenay, British Columbia
May 9, 2023

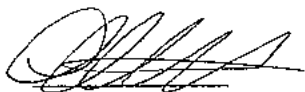
MNP LLP

MNP
LLP

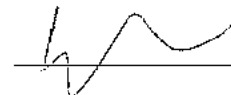
Chartered Professional Accountants

Comox Valley Regional District Summarized Statement of Financial Position
as at December 31, 2022

	2022	2021
Financial Assets		
Cash	\$ 49,080,491	\$ 66,686,294
Portfolio investments	40,889,711	41,941,504
Receivables and security deposits	8,422,923	7,124,571
Debt recoverable from member municipalities	18,788,900	20,725,124
Total Financial Assets	117,182,025	136,477,493
Liabilities		
Payables, other liabilities and deferred revenue	12,395,834	15,862,314
Short-term debt	19,855,001	6,751,768
Long-term debt	77,936,716	84,095,157
Deferred developer contributions	17,128,123	15,085,269
Provision for landfill closure and post closure	14,916,925	26,240,348
Total Liabilities	142,232,599	148,034,856
Net Financial Assets (Net Debt)	(25,050,574)	(11,557,363)
Non-Financial Assets		
Prepaid expenses	245,623	209,855
Inventory of supplies	313,264	259,906
Tangible capital assets	325,114,499	288,224,310
Total Non-Financial Assets	325,673,386	288,694,071
Accumulated Surplus	\$ 300,622,812	\$ 277,136,708
Accumulated Surplus consists of:		
Accumulated surplus	302,716,056	277,136,708
Accumulated remeasurement loss	(2,093,244)	-
Accumulated Surplus	\$ 300,622,812	\$ 277,136,708



L. Wiwcharuk, BMgmt., CPA, CMA
Officer responsible for Financial Administration,
pursuant to Section 237 of the Local Government Act (RSBC 2015)



W. Cole-Hamilton, Vice-Chair for
J. Ketler, Chair of the Board

Comox Valley Regional District Summarized Statement of Operations
Year ended December 31, 2022

	2022 Budget	2022 Actual	2021 Actual
Revenue			
Taxation	\$ 38,899,171	\$ 39,138,154	\$ 37,300,340
Sales of services, fees and other revenue	24,153,939	26,647,073	25,982,707
Government grants and transfers	8,549,231	7,766,324	5,384,577
Contributions from others	1,722,581	10,088,700	4,351,991
Investment income	115,000	2,071,535	242,194
Gain (Loss) on disposal of tangible capital assets	-	42,038	11,933
Acquisition of Union Bay Improvement District	-	-	7,804,448
Total Revenue	<u>73,439,922</u>	<u>85,753,824</u>	<u>81,078,190</u>
Expenses			
General government services	9,232,559	7,301,639	6,509,293
Protective services	6,195,095	5,461,169	5,095,378
Transportation services	3,950,691	3,657,812	3,559,559
Environmental health services	15,866,696	10,166,153	10,093,197
Public health and welfare services	1,699,201	1,022,587	355,530
Environmental development services	3,685,558	3,708,620	3,294,208
Recreation and cultural services	12,163,998	11,686,357	10,162,291
Water services	12,090,281	11,449,188	8,309,905
Sewer services	6,401,057	5,720,951	4,848,571
Total Expenses	<u>71,285,136</u>	<u>60,174,476</u>	<u>52,227,932</u>
Annual Surplus	2,154,786	25,579,348	28,850,258
Accumulated Surplus, beginning of year	<u>277,136,708</u>	<u>277,136,708</u>	<u>248,286,450</u>
Accumulated Surplus, end of year	<u><u>\$ 279,291,494</u></u>	<u><u>\$ 302,716,056</u></u>	<u><u>\$ 277,136,708</u></u>

Comox Valley Regional District Summarized Statement of Cash Flows
Year ended December 31, 2022

	<u>2022</u>	<u>2021</u>
Operating Transactions		
Annual Surplus	\$ 25,579,348	\$ 28,850,258
Changes in non-cash operating balances		
Prepaid expenses and inventory of supplies	(89,126)	371,898
Receivables and security deposits	(1,288,152)	5,232,695
Accounts payable and other liabilities	(1,226,947)	(6,660,618)
Restricted revenue	2,042,854	3,265,379
Deferred government transfers	(2,239,533)	(25,842)
Items not utilizing cash		
Amortization of tangible capital assets	10,652,459	8,640,025
Loss (gain) on disposal/write down of tangible capital assets	(42,038)	(11,933)
Landfill closure and post closure allowance	(11,323,423)	(3,413,276)
Actuarial adjustments and other items	(10,952,568)	(12,848,723)
Cash Provided by Operating Transactions	<u>11,112,874</u>	<u>23,399,863</u>
Capital Transactions		
Proceeds on disposal of tangible capital assets	52,606	22,839
Acquisition of tangible capital assets	(37,514,213)	(40,661,451)
Cash Used for Capital Transactions	<u>(37,461,607)</u>	<u>(40,638,612)</u>
Investment Transactions		
Cash Provided by (Used for) Investment Transactions	<u>(1,041,451)</u>	<u>261,691</u>
Financing Transactions		
Long and short-term debt issued	13,303,995	39,415,073
Long and short-term debt repayments	(3,509,414)	(27,262,229)
Cash Provided by Financing Transactions	<u>9,794,581</u>	<u>12,152,844</u>
Change in Cash	<u>(17,595,603)</u>	<u>(4,824,214)</u>
Cash, beginning of year	<u>66,676,094</u>	<u>71,500,308</u>
Cash, end of year	<u><u>\$ 49,080,491</u></u>	<u><u>\$ 66,676,094</u></u>





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