

NEWS RELEASE

For immediate release

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Over Two-Thousand Voters Take Part in Sewer Referendums: Royston and Union Bay Vote “Yes,” Saratoga and Miracle Beach Vote “No”

The Regional District of Comox-Strathcona (RDSC) has released the unofficial vote count of the two sewer referendums held on February 4th in Royston/Union Bay and Saratoga Miracle Beach:

	Union Bay/Royston	Saratoga/Miracle Beach
YES	759	349
NO	345	630

Bob Long, Chief Administrative Officer at the RDSC commented: “We are pleased to see democracy at work in the region. With such a strong voter turnout we feel people have given us clear direction. For Royston and Union Bay that direction is to move forward with sewers. In the case of Saratoga and Miracle Beach, we put away the sewer plan for now.”

Scrutineers at each of the three voting locations reported early morning lineups before the doors opened at 8:00am, and a steady stream of voters during the day.

In Royston and Union Bay it was possible to review the results of Royston and Union Bay separately because there were two separate voting locations. The end result was nearly evenly matched: the referendum passed successfully in both Royston and Union Bay. (Additional information on voter turnouts and official results will be posted on www.rdcs.bc.ca by Wednesday February 8, 2006.)

The next phase for the Royston and Union Bay project involves the RDSC submitting the official funding proposal and request to the provincial and federal governments. This proposal for two-thirds of the required costs will be submitted within days, explains Graeme Faris, general manager of operational services at the RDSC: “Now that the people of Royston and Union Bay have said yes, we submit the grant request and begin commissioning detailed environmental studies for the area.”

The Regional District of Comox-Strathcona is a partnership of nine electoral areas and eight municipalities providing nearly 100,000 residents with over 140 services—from parks to full-service sports facilities to regional solid waste systems.

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