



A Member of the RDN Taxpayers Alliance

The 2025-2029 Amended RDN Financial Plan

Capital Expenditures to be Delayed & Reserves & Surplus Reductions

March 25th, 2025

Based on 2025-2029 Amended Financial Plan – Consolidated Financials

Follow Up to our March 11th Presentation

After Acknowledging and Stating the following:

- With gratitude that the Nanaimo Regional District Hospital Board discussions about the concern of tax payer abilities to pay that they reduced the planned tax acquisition increase from 28.2% to 21%;
- Hopes that the same mindset will carry over to the RDN Board's decision making when adopting the Amended 2025-2029 Financial Plan;
- That RDN Utilities Infrastructure Expansion and Renewal capital cost of \$295.9 million is a priority;
- The RDN Tax Base traditionally has carried \$250-300 million in Capital Spending over a 5 year period and currently \$599.9 million for the hospital and \$562.5 million for the RDN that non-essential capital expenditures need to be removed or delayed to beyond 2029;

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- That capital spending such as Ravensong Pool, park land acquisitions, a new administration building, a new transit centre and the like need to wait;

Our impression was that the Board wanted to know additional details on items that should be delayed beyond 2029 and as well as the fact that the Pool Referendum was underway and could not be removed from the Plane. Therefore this follow up.

As Requested
Identified Capital Expenditures to be Delayed Beyond 2025-2029

1) Acquisition of Additional & Enhancement of Regional Park Lands

- The current Financial Plan identifies \$56,204,602 for Capital Expenditures for a number of projects and acquisitions for Regional Parks. The acquisition and enhancement of park lands that are not already **contractually committed** should be moved beyond 2025-2029. No doubt you are familiar with the several components as outlined on Page 223 of the Financial Plan that make up the total.
- Due to time we haven't touched on acquisition of vehicles, under Parks & Recreation alone there is a total of \$594,450 earmarked for vehicles.

2) A new Transit Centre for \$65.8Million.

- This should be removed from the current Financial Plan.

3) Ravensong Pool Expansion

The Ravensong Pool Expansion valued at \$38.8Million is currently in the process of a Referendum and if RDN Leadership insist on proceeding with the Referendum the Oceanside Taxpayers should be fully and clearly informed of:

- ✓ The increase in operating costs that they will be responsible for in addition to the repayment of the \$30Million loan.

As an example is Area G, in 2024 they were responsible for operating costs at \$101.69 in for the Average Assessed Value. With the expansion, if within budget, they will be charged \$273.57 for operating costs and loan repayment, a 269% increase. Each Electoral Area is looking at the same % increase.

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- ✓ The cost of other planned Capital Expenditures that they are responsible for:
 - NRGH at \$599.9Million
 - Infrastructure Expansion & Renewal at \$295.9Million
 - Other Capital Expenditures of roughly \$245Million

Without this total context Taxpayers cannot make a truly informed decision without knowing the overall financial impact that is currently planned.

Surplus & Reserves Require Reduction

The Consolidated Financial Plan 2025-2029 reveals the following for the 5 year period:

- Total revenue from taxes of \$609,741,891
- Total Operating Revenue of \$1,110,745,553
- Contributions to Reserves of \$74,594,050
- Operating Surplus of \$99,895,825 – this is excess taxation to cover overspending

Contribution to Reserves and Operating Surplus are excessive as they result in 28.6% of Tax Revenue or 15.7% of Total Revenue.

They need to be substantially reduced!

On Behalf of Your Taxpayers Thank You

- For allowing the time to present our concerns
- For starting to put **Your** Taxpayers' ability to pay in your minds
- For realizing the current Financial Plan is NOT Sustainable
- Acknowledging that our Sovereign Nation is in Economic Turmoil.
- And therefore are willing to make **substantial changes to the current Financial Plan** by delaying the stated Capital Expenditures & Projects beyond 2029 in addition to reducing the Surplus & Reserves to well below the 15.7% of total Operating Revenue / 28.6% of total Tax Revenue.