



## News Release

### Sunshine Coast Regional District Wraps up Preliminary Budget Discussions

Sechelt, BC – January 31, 2017 – The Sunshine Coast Regional District (SCRD) has wrapped up the first round of public budget meetings. The SCRD has two rounds of budget review, with the first round considering a wide range of projects and costs based on priorities.

“In an effort to align the budget process with the Board’s strategic goals, staff developed a set of criteria to assist with prioritizing the various proposals to provide a corporate perspective,” says Tina Perreault, SCRD Chief Financial Officer. “The purpose was to ensure that the various departments are working together to create better strategic alignment.”

Projects were prioritized based on four key criteria - mandatory; direct link to the SCRD’s Strategic Plan; identified in the SCRD’s integrated five-year plan; and low cost and high value.

There are three key items impacting taxation for 2017, they are changes in assessments and apportionment; base budget impacts; and several “one time” projects that were funded through taxation in 2016 which fall off in the 2017 Budget. Projects carried forward from 2016 do not have any financial impact to the 2017 Budget.

“The Board is aware of the overall potential for tax impact and want to understand all the new budget proposals and funding requests before making a final decision,” says Garry Nohr, SCRD Board Chair.

Some of the projects that have been brought forward during round one include improvements and enhancements to administration buildings, fire halls, community parks, community halls, transit, ports, solid waste management, North and South Pender and regional water systems, recreation facilities, and the Gibsons Public Library Building.

These items will be brought forward to the Round 2 budget meeting which is scheduled to take place on March 7 and 8 from 9:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. at the SCRD Board Room, 1975 Field Road in Sechelt. Final adoption of the budget is scheduled for March 23, 2017. For more information, visit [www.scrd.ca/Budget](http://www.scrd.ca/Budget).

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