



## News Release

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

Sechelt, BC – February 19, 2018 – The Sunshine Coast Regional District (SCRD) has wrapped up the first round of public budget meetings.

In November and December preliminary pre-budget reviews take place that are then followed by two rounds of public budget meetings in January and March. The first round considers a wide range of projects and cost based priorities including those from community partners and stakeholders, such as libraries, museums, youth services, and economic development entities.

Projects are 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 preliminary taxation for 2018, they are changes in property assessments related to growth and market conditions which impact apportionment amongst the various service participants; full cost impact of the transit expansion, base budget impacts; and several "one time" projects that were funded through taxation in 2017 which fall off in the 2018 Budget. Projects carried forward from 2017 do not have any financial impact to the 2018 Budget.

Proposals brought forward for consideration during round one focused on maintaining SCRD assets and critical infrastructure to ensure ongoing service delivery for fire and emergency services, ports, buildings and community recreation facilities, landfills and various water systems.

Water projects also focused on conservation initiatives such as rainwater harvesting rebates and universal metering in the District of Sechelt, expanding and supplementing water supply, as well as improving safety and reducing risk to the delivery of water services.

These items will be brought forward to the Round 2 budget meeting which is scheduled to take place on March 5 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 22, 2018. For more information, visit [www.scrd.ca/Budget](http://www.scrd.ca/Budget).

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