



News Release

Budget Discussions Take Place Next Week

Sechelt, BC—January 20, 2023— The first round of budget discussions starts on Monday, January 23, as the Sunshine Coast Regional District (SCRD) Board considers projects and initiatives for the coming year.

The SCRD's budget process involves four public meetings.

1. **Pre-budget meeting.** At this meeting, SCRD staff provide information on new budget proposals for projects and initiatives for the coming year. The SCRD Board give feedback on these proposals, including areas where they would like further information to assist with decision making for the next round of budget meetings. The SCRD Board also contemplate projects that are yet to be completed from prior years (known as carry forward projects) so that they can factor workload on staff into their decision making. These meetings took place in December 2022.
2. **Round one budget meetings.** At this meeting new budget proposals which are now accompanied by further information including a business case summary for the proposed project / initiative are brought forward to the SCRD Board. The SCRD Board also receive presentations from community partners for service supported by the SCRD. During this meeting, budget proposals are either deferred to another year, denied or moved ahead to round two budget discussions. At this point, projected implications around taxation for the community are also presented to the Board. These meetings will take place next week.
3. **Round two budget meetings.** Budget proposals that were not fully approved at round one are brought forward and a final decision is made as to whether or not they are to be incorporated into the financial plan for the upcoming year. Projected implications for taxation are again presented to the Board. These meetings will take place on February 21 and 22.
4. **Adoption of financial plan.** Following budget meetings, the financial plan – incorporating all projects and initiatives that have been moved through and discussed at the budget meetings is adopted by the SCRD Board. The budget adoption is due to take place on March 23.

Getting Involved

All of the meetings outlined above are streamed on the SCRD's YouTube channel at www.youtube.com/user/sunshinecoastrd. Agenda packages can be found at www.scrd.ca/agendas. Zoom links to join the meetings virtually can also be found on the agendas page.

You can ask questions and learn more about the timelines for the budget at letstalk.scrd.ca/budget

Information Sessions

In mid-February, SCRD staff and directors will take part in virtual information sessions for the budget. Times and dates for these sessions are below and further information including links to join the meetings will be provided on www.scrd.ca prior to the sessions taking place.

- Monday February 13, 12 p.m. to 1 p.m.
- Monday February 13, 6 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.

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