

# Roberts Creek SCRD Director's Newsletter, Summer 2018

## Mark Lebell

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**In person:** Gumboot Café, most Saturday Mornings, 10-12 except August  
*(If you have trouble with any of the links below, copy and paste them into your browser)*

I will be off-coast for much of August, so if you've got something on your mind catch me at the Gumboot one Saturday morning in late July or early September. October will bring Local Government elections and referendum on Proportional Representation. If you are taking the time to read this then congratulations, as an engaged and informed citizenry is a foundational piece of our democratic system. **Put voting day, Saturday, October 20<sup>th</sup>, on your calendar now.**

### Housing Densification

The SCRD Board is considering an additions to all 5 Rural Areas' Official Community Plans to encourage increased densification in the areas previously identified as "community hubs". In our existing Roberts Creek OCP such an area is mapped out as being below the Highway 101 and between Marlene Rd. and Blackburn Rd. There are also other specific densification criteria proposed for areas outside the central core. There is a **Public Hearing** the proposed amendments on July 23<sup>rd</sup> at 7PM at the SCRD's Field Rd offices. I have put a summary of the information on my website, along with links to the technical amendments themselves.

<https://robertscreekmark.com/news-blog/>

### Cannabis Land Use issues

While the legalization of cannabis may not happen soon enough for some, Local Governments are challenged by the small window of time between the announcements of specific Federal and Provincial regulations and the proposed October 17<sup>th</sup> implementation date.

Recently the SCRD board had a presentation from Staff with regards to the **Land Use and Zoning implications of the emerging legislation.**

Local Governments will only have input into 2 main aspects of the new regime... **where legal retail outlets are located , and where it is produced** (both Land Use Zoning issues). Nearly all other aspects will be Federal or Provincial jurisdiction.. **Our OCP and current zoning speaks of directing retail activity to our "downtown core"**. Historically, relatively large-scale production in residential areas has been the source of most constituents' concerns, as smell, fire, traffic and electrical draw issues impact their neighbourhood . Production and sales from the same property is specifically prohibited by the senior government legislation.

One consideration for Roberts Creekers is that the recent announcement that **current Medical ACMPR regulatory regime will continue alongside the emerging non-medicinal regime** for 5 years and then be re-evaluated at that point in light of the progress of the non-medical regime.

### **Sunshine Coast Community Forest Public Engagement**

Last month's Director's Newsletter laid out the **forestry tenure models** that impact the land base on Mt. Elphinstone. One of those models, the Sunshine Coast Community Forest, has as its lone shareholder the District of Sechelt. The DoS recently announced a public engagement process around the SCCF which includes 2 World Café events in early July, an online survey and outreach at several summer community events. Background and details are available here:

<http://www.sechelt.ca/Contact-Us/Have-Your-Say-Sechelt/Community-Forest/engagement-opportunities>

The SCCF forest tenure is spread throughout a number of SCRD Rural Areas, including Area D (Roberts Creek), and the Chapman and Grey watersheds. Grants from the SCCF support projects across the Sunshine Coast. I would encourage Roberts Creekers to give feedback via the opportunities provided.

### **Annual Report**

The SCRD's 2017 Annual Report has been published online and is available in hard copy at local libraries. This summary of the accomplishments and fiscal performance often wins national awards, and is a comprehensive answer to the question "**Where did my tax dollars go?**"

Along with the organization's financial statements, the Report also includes some interesting data about the Sunshine Coast demographics, income sources, building permits issued, and the like. It can be found here:

<http://www.scrd.ca/files/File/Corporate/Finance/AEROFs%20-%202018-Jan-SCRD%20Annual%20Report%20for%202017-for%20web.pdf>

### **SCRD July Newsletters Topics**

This month's edition of the **SCRD's "Coast Current" Newsletter** can be linked to below. You can also subscribe to receive it directly. Information on Water Meters, Illegal Dumping, Summer Facility Maintenance closures and more can be found here:

<https://secure.campaigner.com/CSB/public/archive.aspx?args=Mjg5OTQ5NTY%3d>

*Note that a hard copy of this Newsletter is posted in the glass case beside the General Store, and hard copies are available in the Roberts Creek Library Reading Room.*