



BUILDING STRONGER COMMUNITIES:

**Better Services, Economic Growth,
Solutions That Work**

Improving a Strong Local Government System



- Task Force judged the current system to be strong
- Adaptable dual stream system:
 - municipalities
 - regional districts
- Supportive agencies (e.g. MFA)
- Capable of providing efficient, effective services:
 - flexibly
 - equitably
 - collaboratively

Challenges to Community Opportunities



- Challenge of collaborating
- Need to build strong regional economies
- Need for creative leadership
- Challenge of promoting regional action



BUILDING STRONGER COMMUNITIES

**Toward More
Effective
Collaboration**



Toward More Effective Collaboration



- Different needs mean different solutions
- Working at the appropriate scale:
 - improves efficiency & effectiveness
 - helps address public service gaps
- Working together makes sense
- Proactive regional thinking should be rewarded

Upgrade Existing Small Community & Rural Water Systems

Desired Future

- Larger, more capable governments take a more active role
- Barriers to success are addressed:
 - comprehensive planning
 - capital investments
 - cost-recovery alternatives
 - risks are insured
- Public gets safe, clean drinking water from their local governments



Enable Multi-Regional Collaboration for Service Delivery

Desired Future

- Regions can choose existing provisions for extra-territorial services (LGA s.796.1)
- New provisions available for off-the-shelf service partnerships:
 - shared decision-making authority
 - stakeholder involvement
 - customized scope & scale
 - broad application



Enhance the Delivery of Regionalized Fire Support Services

Desired Future

- Local fire departments continue to do what they do best – put out fires
- Local fire departments are strengthened through *regional* fire support services:
 - safety assessments
 - “fire prevention manager” linked with local “safety officers”
 - fire training & communications
 - emergency planning & response





BUILDING STRONGER COMMUNITIES

Strengthening Regional Economies



Toward More Effective Collaboration



Strengthening Regional Economies



- Regional economic performance impacts competitiveness & prosperity
- Today local governments play a constructive role in building regional economies
- To be more effective, BC regions need:
 - coordinated, strategic economic planning
 - streamlined business regulation
 - business-friendly local governments
- Successful regional partnerships should be rewarded

Reinvent Regional Economic Development



Desired Future

- Regional partnerships are in place:
 - regional alliances
 - strategic plans for economic growth
 - infrastructure investments are effective
- Regions are rewarded for achieving results
- BC's natural economic regions thrive:
 - business opportunities expand
 - vibrant, sustainable communities where people want to live and work

Promote Business Friendly Practices



Desired Future

- Local government & business work toward a positive business environment:
 - best practices are identified
 - regulatory strategies are developed
- Local decision-making considers business interests:
 - best practices are used
 - regulations are streamlined
- A strong, competitive local business climate advances community well-being

Harmonize Business Licensing



Desired Future

- Local governments work with business to:
 - streamline & harmonize licensing regulations
 - adopt region-wide, inter-municipal business licensing schemes
 - use single-access service models to enhance service delivery to business
- A strong, competitive local business climate advances community well-being



BUILDING STRONGER COMMUNITIES

Strengthening Regional Economies



Toward More Effective Collaboration



Revenue-Sharing for Results

Regional or Local Action

Safe, clean drinking water for small or rural areas

Enhanced regional fire support services to improve public safety

Implement multi-sector plans to grow regional economies

Provincial Response

Province collaborates:

- helps arrange capital funding
- exempt MIA from IPT

IPT revenue-sharing

Province collaborates:

- planning partner
- share incremental growth revenues



BUILDING STRONGER COMMUNITIES

Strengthening Regional Economies



Targeted
Legislative Changes



Revenue-Sharing
For Results

Toward More Effective Collaboration

