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
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
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
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
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
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
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