

## 2022 Ministerial Meetings

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Joint Meeting - Minister of Land, Water and Resource Stewardship &  
Minister of Indigenous Relations and Reconciliation – September 13, 2022

**Ministry:** Minister Josie Osborne, Minister Murray Rankin

**Sunshine Coast:** District of Sechelt Mayor & Sunshine Coast Regional District Chair Darnelda Siegers, District of Sechelt Chief Administrative Officer Andrew Yeates, District of Sechelt Councillor Brenda Rowe, District of Sechelt Councillor Alton Toth, Sunshine Coast Regional District Director Donna McMahon, Sunshine Coast Regional District Director Leonard Lee, Sunshine Coast Regional District Chief Administrative Officer Dean McKinley

**Topic:** Lack of Communication with Local Governments Prior to Decisions Made or Work Start

**Background:** Local governments are not being consulted prior to Provincial decisions being made in consultation with First Nations, yet we are impacted by the decisions and work. Currently informed "after the fact" (Hwy 101, dock management, as examples). We are fully supportive of reconciliation, but true reconciliation requires all parties to be at the table during the consultation period.

**Ask:** We are looking for clarity as to the where the province sees the implementation of UNDRIP and DRIPA going and what the role of local government will transition to in the future. We'd like to know if development and building processes are changing, or looking to change in the future.

**Feedback:** Package provided to Minister Osborne and Minister Rankin is attached. This package has also been received by SCRD Board, DOS and Gibsons Councils and to shíshálh Nation SCRD Director Philip Paul and to Chief Warren Paul.

Ministers indicated that they would reach out to the shíshálh Nation in a timely manner to discuss the concerns raised and that a three-way meeting, shíshálh, Local Governments and the Province should follow shortly thereafter. No letter has been received from the province confirming the direction forward.

Ministry of Mental Health and Addictions – September 14, 2022

**Ministry:** Minister Sheila Malcolmson

**Sunshine Coast:** DoS Mayor & SCR D Chair Darnelda Siegers,

**Topic: Mental Health Support, Treatment Centre, Transition Housing, & Related Staffing Issues**

**Background:** Need more support for families and people with substance use and mental illness. There are currently no dedicated detox beds in our hospital. We desperately need a treatment facility and transition housing for those leaving treatment. Mental health support workers are needed for supportive housing and to liaise with homeless population. Expanded addiction services and additional outreach workers is greatly needed. We need to ensure that support organizations have capacity and staffing for a homeless population of this size. Workforce housing is a big problem in our region.

**Ask:** Increase training/education programs for substance use and mental illness workers, as well as workforce housing and create expanded safe drug supply program.

**Feedback:** Minister Malcolmson indicated that there is an acknowledgement of the huge need for additional supports for Mental Health and Addictions. No follow-up letter has been received.

Ministry of Municipal Affairs –September 14, 2022

**Ministry:** Minister Nathan Cullen

**Sunshine Coast:** DoS Mayor & SCRD Chair Darnelda Siegers,

**Topic:** Seawatch Subdivision Long-Term Planning and Legislative Reform

**Background:** The Seawatch subdivision was constructed between 2005-2012 by a private developer. Sechelt relied on geotechnical engineering opinions provided through the developer, following provincial legislation. Multiple sinkholes developed and in 2019 the subdivision was evacuated. The hazards do not self-heal and are expected to have worsened since 2019. The subdivision is likely at least as hazardous today, if not more hazardous. Despite multiple active litigations there is a significant public safety issue, and we need to work towards a long-term solution.

**Ask:** That the Province work with Sechelt and property owners to find a long-term solution for Seawatch; and that legislation be reviewed to ensure appropriate assessments and inspections are implemented throughout development processes.

**Feedback:** This meeting was seen as an opportunity to bring awareness of the Seawatch subdivision issue to the attention of the new Minister of Municipal Affairs. No follow-up letter has been received.



Minister of Transportation and Infrastructure – September 15, 2022

**Ministry:** Minister Rob Fleming,

**Sunshine Coast:** DoS Mayor and SCRD Chair Darnelda Siegers,

**Topic:** BC Ferries Service Contract Renewal-Performance Term 6

**Background:** BC Ferries service term contract is up for renewal with the Province and we would like to request that route 3 be included in the service contract for long term capacity planning.

**Ask:** Service to route 3 be included in long-term capacity planning and ferry service increased within the upcoming performance term 6 contract renewal between the Province and BC Ferries.

**Feedback:** Minister suggested a letter be sent to the Interim CEO of BC Ferries. Briefing notes provided to the minister attached. Follow-up letter received and attached.



Ministry of Attorney General and Ministry Responsible for Housing – September 14, 2022

**Ministry staff:**

**Sunshine Coast:** DoS Mayor & SCR D Chair Darnelda Siegers,

**Topic:** Would like to request that the maximum fine amount in Bylaw Notice Enforcement Act be increased from \$500.

**Feedback:** Staff were appreciative of the request and indicated the issue had not been raised before and will follow-up. No follow-up letter received.

Office of the Seniors Advocate – September 13, 2022

**OSA Staff:**

**Sunshine Coast:** Dos Mayor & SCRd Chair Darnelda Siegers,

**Topic:** Given the new census information, while we know long-term care services are desperately needed for seniors on the Sunshine Coast, we need assistance in determining and forecasting beds needed for assisted living, supportive housing for seniors and complex care beds. Access to medical services may be further restricted due to the potential closure of a large medical clinic in Sechelt.

**Feedback:** Seniors Advocate indicated that the information requested was available and that her office would be willing to provide it if a formal letter requesting it was provided. No letter following up has been drafted or sent. If seniors care homes are a priority for the new council, this could be followed-up on.

Royal Canadian Mounted Police (RCMP) – September 13, 2022

**RCMP:**

**Sunshine Coast:** DoS Mayor & SCR D Chair Darnelda Siegers,

**Topic #1: Municipal Member Staffing Issues**

**Topic #2: Addressing an Increase of Drug Activity, Homeless Camps and Prolific Offenders**

**Topic #1 Background:** Currently, municipal member positions at the Sunshine Coast RCMP detachment are not filled, and security clearance for accepted job applicants has stalled.

**Topic #2 Background:** Seeking advice and collaboration on the best steps forward to address an increase of drug activity in public spaces, homeless camps and prolific offenders.

**Topic #1 Feedback:** The RCMP is well aware of the issue around security clearances taking a long time to process. A workaround process is hopefully being implemented to shorten the time to get staff cleared for work. The shortened office hours at our detachment are a direct result of the long timeline to get security clearances for municipal staff to work there.

**Topic #2 Feedback:** This is a complicated issue. Working with the local RCMP, in conjunction with our Bylaw Officers, and the soon to be released report to the provincial government on how to address prolific offenders will all support addressing the issues locally.

No follow-up letter received.