

North Shuswap Incorporation Feasibility Study Group

Community information regarding the Incorporation Study letter of support:

- THIS IS NOT SUPPORT TO INCORPORATE Scotch Creek
- THIS IS SUPPORT TO HAVE A STUDY DONE to tell us if incorporation is realistic. Incorporation discussions happen during the study. A vote for/against incorporation is a couple of years away after the study is complete.
- our preliminary study (completed Nov. 2016) shows it's quite viable with no tax increase
- \$?? million in taxes and benefits go to the CSRD every year - what benefits for us?

An Incorporation Study will determine

- if incorporation is viable for us
- local tax changes, if any
- breakdown of services that we will do vs CSRD, for instance the dump stays CSRD, we could do planning
- if there are any negatives to incorporation
- there are NO NEGATIVES TO DOING THE STUDY

Eventual Incorporation could include our ability to:

- make decisions on local issues, not Revelstoke or Golden votes
- decide where our tax dollars go
- speed up sewer and water development - help the environment - aquifer, lake outflows
- access Federal and Provincial grants available to incorporated municipality
- plan reasonable economic development
- plan affordable housing
- will benefit all communities in the NS
- stop erosion of services - restaurants, stores, health and beauty etc
- provide need permanent health care
- provide an aging population that needs a viable community with required services
- watch property values go up with increased activity

Likely questions

- Increased taxes – if this is the case, it is not likely that incorporation would succeed. The positive preliminary study is based on taxes staying the same.
- A lot of work – Scotch Creek and the North Shuswap are an independent and resilient community used to looking after ourselves eg. Health Centre
- Small group dictating how Scotch Creek will operate - there would be fair and open elections
- We would still be part of the CSRD – yes but we get to pick and choose what services they provide and gain local control of other services and decision making
- Community water and sewer will increase the costs to live here – A Scotch Creek municipality would have a much better chance of getting government grants for infrastructure. Community water and sewer will allow growth, create a bigger tax base, and bring back amenities we have lost

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NORTH SHUSWAP STUDY Scotch Creek Incorporation

The Process

- THIS IS NOT A VOTE TO INCORPORATE
- THIS IS A VOTE TO HAVE A STUDY DONE to tell us if incorporation is realistic

Past:

- Local, privately funded study is done with a positive result
- Study sent to Ministry, CSRD and other government offices
- CSRD responded with a negative letter saying
 - the study doesn't show that it's feasible or realistic
 - the CSRD can fulfill our economic development objectives (where/how??)
 - they're too busy right now
 - therefore they won't support the study

Present:

- Meeting with MP Mel Arnold - federal grants available
- Meeting with MLA Greg Kylo - provincial grants, put pressure on Ministry of Community, Sport, Cultural Development
- Meeting with CSRD with list of things we feel they need to address
- Meeting with MoCSCD - request a grant to have the INCORPORATION STUDY done

Future:

- try to work with the CSRD to resolve our differences
- when INCORPORATION STUDY grant is received - begin that study
- study will likely take a year
- study will result in a positive or negative outlook for incorporation based mainly on tax revenues vs public expenses. Our preliminary study shows a positive cash flow.
- The study will show
 - if incorporation is viable for us
 - local tax changes, if any (preliminary study based on no tax increase)
 - breakdown of services that we will handle vs CSRD, for instance the dump stays CSRD, we could do planning
 - what negatives there may be to incorporation
- If the study is positive there will be a referendum of the people involved - Scotch Creek
- The people of Scotch Creek will vote to incorporate or not after the study is done
- The people will have the choice