

7 AUGUST, 2026
SOUTHERN INTERIOR LOCAL GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION
PO BOX 563 SALMON ARM STN MAIN, BC V1E 4N7
250-851-6653 INFO@SILGA.CA

HONOURABLE DAVID EBY
PREMIER OF BRITISH COLUMBIA
PO BOX 9041 STN PROV GOVT
VICTORIA, BC, V8W 9E1



Dear Premier Eby,

Re: Creating Pathways to Meaningful Local Government Consultation

On behalf of the Southern Interior Local Government Association (SILGA), representing 37 member municipalities and regional districts across the Interior, I am writing to the Province to request in earnest policy measures to ensure adequate local government consultation prior to legislative changes impacting local government land use, planning, and service expenditures.

SILGA, along with the Lower Mainland Local Government Association, passed resolutions at their conventions requesting the use of Local Government Associations as a forum for garnering meaningful and transparent consultation of local governments of all sizes on impactful legislation such as DRIPA and the Heritage Conservation Act. Similarly, the Association of Vancouver Island and Coastal Communities, as well as the North Central Local Government Association, passed similar resolutions calling for better transparency and meaningful technical-level consultations concerning legislation that impacts local government operations. SILGA also endorsed two more resolutions calling for transparency of communications and a legislated approach to local government consultation, both of which have previously been endorsed at UBCM through resolution 2025-EB77.

These repeated calls for more robust, meaningful, technical, and transparent consultations highlight a difficulty faced by disparate Provincial Agencies and Ministries, all struggling to execute their mandates within the pressures of external deadlines, legislative terms, and staffing constraints. Understandably, meaningful consultation can be a difficult thing to obtain when stakeholders are so numerous. Therefore, SILGA would like to propose that the Province:

1. Consider alternative consultation methods, including but not limited to using in-person forums such as Local Government Association conferences;
2. Conduct a study of these methods, measuring local government reception, feasibility, and impacts post-implementation of legislation; and
3. Upon receipt of the study's results, legislate an evidence-based consultation process that works for both the Province and local government stakeholders.

SILGA is happy to meet with the Premier's office to elaborate on this item. Thank you for your consideration of our members' request.

Sincerely,

Bill Sarai, President
Southern Interior Local Government Association (SILGA)