



BRITISH
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September 16, 2024

Reference: 70198

Christy Malden
Deputy Chief Administrative Officer / Corporate Officer
Regional District of Okanagan-Similkameen
101 Martin Street
Penticton BC V2A 5J9
Email: cmalden@rdos.bc.ca

Dear Christy Malden:

Thank you for the Regional District of Okanagan-Similkameen's application for an extension to the small-scale multi-unit housing (SSMUH) zoning bylaw requirements pursuant to section 786 of the *Local Government Act* ("Act"), submitted to the Province on May 28, 2024. I apologize for the delay in responding.

I have considered the application in accordance with the legislation. The extension requested is granted for ongoing infrastructure projects already underway (Okanagan Falls and Faulder) and infrastructure upgrades needed (Heritage Hills). You must adopt a zoning bylaw that complies with section 481.3 of the Act in relation to the areas for which an extension has been granted by December 30, 2030.

As with all new legislation, the Province will be monitoring the SSMUH framework closely to ensure it is working as intended. We strongly encourage the Regional District of Okanagan-Similkameen to prioritize the infrastructure upgrades associated with the extension. I know that infrastructure projects take time, but the Province expects local governments to work with us in tackling the housing crisis and providing more homes for people. To date, the majority of communities throughout BC have adopted SSMUH legislation through the passing of local bylaws. Given the urgency of the housing crisis, while an extension is being granted, I urge the Regional District of Okanagan-Similkameen to adopt a SSMUH-compliant bylaw at the earliest opportunity.

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Thank you.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Ravi Kahlon', with a stylized, flowing script.

Ravi Kahlon
Minister of Housing

cc: Roly Russell, MLA for Boundary-Similkameen
Shannon Duong, Planner
Jim Zaffino, Chief Administrative Officer
Christopher Garrish, Planning Services Manager
Mark Pendergraft, Regional District of Okanagan-Similkameen Board Chair,
Planning and Land Use Management Branch