

UBCM BYLAW DISPUTE ADJUDICATION SURVEY

TO: Mayor and Council
Chair and Regional District Board
Administrator

FROM: Ken Vance, Senior Policy Advisor

DATE: March 23, 2007

RE: BYLAW DISPUTE ADJUDICATION SYSTEM

BACKGROUND

In 2003 the *Local Government Bylaw Enforcement Act* was passed, giving local government the ability to create a Bylaw Dispute Adjudication Process. The legislation created a new ticketing mechanism (a "Bylaw Notice") which does not require personal service, and also created a new forum for locally managing ticket disputes.

In 2004 the bylaw adjudication process was piloted by three local governments on the North Shore (West Vancouver District, North Vancouver District and North Vancouver City).

In 2005 the Attorney General announced the expansion of the program. The Ministry of Attorney General released two reports on the process entitled:

- "North Shore Bylaw Notice Adjudication Registry: Evaluation Report";
- "Local Government Bylaw Dispute Adjudication Toolkit" (which was prepared in cooperation with the Ministry of Community Services and the Local Government Management Association). Copies of the reports and/or links to these documents can be found on the UBCM website (www.civicnet.bc.ca) under the "Featured Policy Topics" drop-down box in the bottom left area of any page.

The evaluation report highlighted benefits for both local governments and the court system. Specifically the new bylaw process:

- provided cost savings to both local government and the province;
- increased the fine revenue collected by the participating local governments;
- reduced the collection costs to local government;
- increased the productivity of enforcement officers who are no longer required to spend time waiting to attend the Court on traffic issues.

SURVEY

This brief survey is intended to gather information on local government interest in, and awareness of, the Bylaw Dispute Adjudication System. Survey results will be used to assess interest in exploring how the system could work in your community.

To complete the survey, please go to www.civicnet.bc.ca and click on the "UBCM Surveys" link under the "Programs & Services" tab. Click on the "Bylaw Dispute Adjudication Survey" link to begin.