

22 Glossary

Apportionment	Means the allocation of the annual net cost of a service among the participating member municipalities in a regional district. Such allocation is necessary for determining the contribution that each member municipality must raise in order to support the service. Defined areas within an electoral area may also be participants. Unless otherwise specified in the establishing bylaw, <i>Local Government Act</i> (LGA) s. 380 to s. 384 provides for the default method of allocation to be on the basis of the converted value of land and improvements in the service area.
Board of Examiners	Appointed under LGA s. 754 and responsible for certification of standards of proficiency in local government administration, service delivery, statutory administration (corporate and financial administration), and executive management. Comprised of three members appointed by the Lieutenant Governor in Council on the recommendation of the minister, for a term of three years or until their successors are appointed.
District Municipalities	An incorporated area that is greater than 800 hectares and has an average population density of less than five persons per hectare. Are given authority to undertake drainage projects through LGA section 639.1. Includes a township.
“E” Division	The RCMP Division for British Columbia.
Electoral Area	An area within an unincorporated or rural area of a regional district, as specified by the letters patent for the regional district.
Electoral Participating Area	An area within a service area that is all or part of an electoral area.
Elector	Means a resident elector or non-resident property elector of a municipality or regional district electoral area.
Fiscal Year	The Province's fiscal year is April 1 to March 31—commonly expressed as, for example “2017/18 fiscal year”. The municipal or regional district fiscal year is the calendar year.
General Local Elections	Refers to local government elections held every four years (2022, 2026, etc.) [<i>Community Charter</i> (CC) s. 81.1].
Inspector of Municipalities or Inspector	Appointed by Cabinet, the Inspector may make inquiries concerning the conduct of local government [LGA s. 758]. The Inspector may also approve financial bylaws (e.g., loan authorization, security issuance).
Lieutenant Governor in Council (LG in C)	The provincial Premier and Cabinet.
Ministerial Order	A determination or regulation of a minister. It is distinguished from a regulation in that it does not require Cabinet approval.

Municipal Participating Area	An area within a service area that is all or part of a municipality.
Non-Conforming Use	Where land, a building or a structure is lawfully used at the time a bylaw is adopted that would make the use unlawful, that use may be continued as a "non-conforming" use. Where the use is discontinued for a period of six months, any subsequent use must comply with the new bylaw unless the discontinuance is part of normal seasonal or agricultural practices [LGA s. 528]. Special rules govern: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • non-conforming building under construction; • alteration or additions to non-conforming uses; • extension or repair of non-conforming uses.
Order in Council	Term used to describe Cabinet orders or regulations.
Participating Area	A municipal participating area, a treaty First Nation participating area, or an electoral participating area, which participates in the use and funding of a service of a regional district.
Regional Board	Means the governing and executive body of the regional district (Part 6, Division 1 of <i>Local Government Act</i>).
Regional Municipality	Applies to the only regional municipality in BC: Northern Rockies Regional Municipality. This municipality is classified as a District and has certain powers of a regional district for the purpose of some statutes.
Regional District	A geographic area of the province incorporated under Part 6 of the <i>Local Government Act</i> for the purpose of exercising powers conferred under the Act or other enactments, and consisting of municipalities and electoral areas.
Regulations	Acts commonly provide that Cabinet may make regulations. These have the effect of law and generally contain the details with regard to implementing the intent of the statute. Sometimes regulations are used to bring Acts into force.
Service Area	An area in a regional district within which a service is provided. It may comprise one or more participating areas.
Statute	An Act of the provincial or federal government.
Surveyor of Taxes	The Provincial property tax collector for rural (unincorporated) areas, appointed under the <i>Taxation (Rural Area) Act</i> .
Treasury Board	A Cabinet committee with responsibilities including budgetary review, chaired by the Minister of Finance.

Unincorporated Areas

Synonymous with the electoral areas of regional districts; the areas within regional districts that are not included in any municipality.

Some Common Abbreviations

ALR	Agricultural Land Reserve
APC	Advisory Planning Commission
BCAA	BC Assessment Authority
CC	Community Charter
CHC	Community Health Council
DCC	Development Cost Charge
GFOA	Government Finance Officers Association of BC
HOG	Home Owner Grant
LGA	Local Government Act
LGMA	Local Government Management Association
MEVA	Municipalities Enabling and Validating Act
MFA	Municipal Finance Authority
MIA	Municipal Insurance Association
OCP	Official Community Plan
OIC	Order in Council
OSP	Official Settlement Plan
RHB	Regional Health Board
RHD	Regional Hospital District
SLP	Supplementary Letters Patent
UBCM	Union of British Columbia Municipalities
UREP	Provincial land reserved for the "Use, Recreation and Enjoyment of the Public"

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