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Union of BC Municipalities (Review Panel) 10551 Shellbridge Way, Richmond, BC V6X 2W8

Tofino Volunteer Fire Department c/o Mark McKeough, Fire Chief District of Tofino 121 Third Street, PO Box 9, Tofino, BC, VOR 2Z0

August 18, 2025

Re: Support for District of Tofino's Firehall Replacement Project

To whom it may concern,

Please accept this letter as a formal endorsement from the Pacific Rim School District's (SD70) Board of Education for the District of Tofino's Firehall Replacement Project.

The Board of Education recognizes that safe, modern and reliable emergency services are fundamental to the well-being of students, staff, and families throughout our district. The existing firehall has served the community for many years, but its current facility no longer meets the operational requirements or safety standards needed to effectively support today's demands. A replacement firehall is a critical infrastructure investment that will ensure timely and effective emergency response, enhance public safety, and build resilience in the face of future challenges.

From the school district's perspective, the benefits of this project are far-reaching. Our schools depend on the capacity of local first responders to address emergencies ranging from fires to medical calls. The proximity and readiness of the firehall directly affects the security of our learning environments, enabling us to provide safe spaces for students to learn and thrive. A new firehall will not only improve emergency response times but will also expand opportunities for fire prevention education and community partnerships with schools.

The Board of Education values strong collaboration with municipal and community partners. We believe that the Firehall Replacement Project aligns with provincial strategic priorities by strengthening critical infrastructure, promoting community safety, and supporting sustainable community growth.

We respectfully urge that this application be given the highest consideration. This project represents an essential investment in the long-term safety and resilience of our community, and we are proud to stand alongside the District of Tofino in support of it.

Thank you for your attention and for your ongoing commitment to initiatives that strengthen the fabric of communities across British Columbia.

Yours sincerely,

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Pam Craig, Board Chair

Board of Education, Pacific Rim School District 4690 Roger Street, Port Alberni, BC V9Y 3Z4

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