

**SUBJECT: Highlands Sustainability Appraisal Form**

**SECTION: Community Services**

**POLICY NO: V - 3506**

1. REASON:

The District is committed to ensuring all elements of sustainability are taken into account in land use planning and other major decisions. The purpose of using the Highlands Sustainability Appraisal Form is to inform Council, the applicant, District staff, and the public about how a rezoning/OCP amendment application is proposed to affect the District's sustainability policies and desired directions. It is meant to be a high level informative tool, not intended to be the primary method of analysis.

2. POLICY:

- A. **That all rezoning/OCP amendment applications be required – either by the applicant and/or by staff – to fill out the Highlands Sustainability Appraisal Form, paper sample attached.**
- B. **At Council's discretion and by resolution, the Highlands Sustainability Appraisal Form may be used in other instances.**
- C. **For ease of calculations, an electronic copy will be available on the District's website.**

3. BACKGROUND AND GUIDANCE:

The attached Highlands Sustainability Appraisal Form is based on the Five Capital Stocks model. These five stocks are:

- *Natural* capital contains all the stocks provided by nature.
- *Manufactured* capital contains all stocks constructed by humans, both public and private, such as buildings and infrastructure.
- *Financial* capital contains monetary assets and liabilities.
- *Human* capital refers to skills of people.
- *Social* capital refers to relationships between people, organizations and institutions.

Each stock has subcategories representing important elements to the District, as formally communicated through Official Community Plan policies or through generally desirable sustainability directions.

A capital stock can be considered like an account. Some contain assets of value, while others contain liabilities that are desirable to minimize. Land use and municipal operations lead to changes or flows in these accounts over time, similar to deposits or withdrawals in a bank account. The column, "Desired Relevant Flows," identifies key flows relevant to the capital stock subcategory to the left (first column). Cases where desired flow direction is not clear are left unsigned. Other flows can be added as appropriate.

The description column provides specific points for consideration of the subcategory. If new subcategories are added this column, they should, in their descriptions, identify the desirable increase or decrease of the subcategory or flow rate. Care should be taken to consider each capital stock and flow, and identify both positive and negative implications with respect to sustainability values.

The “Amount” column notes the actual amount – or magnitude – of the effects by showing the quantities relevant to the value (ex. hectares, dollars, tonnes of CO2) or a qualitative ranking (ex. high, low, medium). The next five columns, “Rating,” indicate the desirability of the change using the following amounts:

-3	Very negative
-2	Negative
-1	Somewhat negative
0	Neutral
+1	Somewhat positive
+2	Positive
+3	Very positive

If the electronic form is used, all ratings will be calculated to provide the “Total Change in Capital Stocks” for each stock at the bottom of the form.

**...Attachment: “Highlands Sustainability Appraisal Form”**

ADOPTED BY COUNCIL: October 17, 2011

Resolution: 194/ 2011

AMENDED BY COUNCIL: