

Times Colonist Letters, June 23, 2019

Going deeper with comparison

Re: "Local government is doing fine," letter, June 20.

One can agree with the letter writer who maintains their home is served well in the B.C. regional district model, specifically within the Juan de Fuca Electoral area, a rural, unincorporated part of the Capital Regional District.

But for those living within the 13 municipalities of the CRD, it doesn't work as well.

Residents of Juan de Fuca are able to directly elect a regional district representative.

As for the rest of us, we have no electoral franchise. Our directors are appointed by the municipalities.

That results in no direct accountability to the taxpayers who are billed for services and decisions they make.

Fortunately for the letter writer, they are unaffected by the cost of projects which affect the rest of us, such as the sewage treatment debacle.

We are also facing problems with urban planning and the inability of municipal, parochial politicians to work together to solve our regional problems such as transportation.

More examples abound.

There is fragmented policing and fire protection, lack of cohesive parks and recreation planning and starved performing arts centres which receive a pittance from anyone other than the City of Victoria.

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