

The motions recorded in **SRD 560/25 through 563/25** represent the final legislative authorization of **Bylaw No. 615**, which ratifies the **2025–2026 Northern Area D Bulk Water Supply Agreement** between the Strathcona Regional District (SRD) and the City of Campbell River. By leading the Board to adopt this transitional agreement, you (**Director John Rice**) have successfully stabilized utility rates for your constituents while introducing higher standards for water quality and emergency coordination.

## 1. Technical Context: Transitional Stability and Rate Protection

The adoption of Bylaw No. 615 replaces the previous agreement that expired on December 31, 2024 1.

- **Transitional Two-Year Term:** The agreement is intentionally shorter (2025–2026) to allow the City to complete major rate studies and to provide the SRD with accurate consumption data following your successful rollout of **universal water metering**.
- **Breaking the Trend of Increases:** The agreement establishes fixed rates of **\$1.68 per cubic metre in 2025** and **\$1.70 in 2026** 3. Notably, the 2025 rate represents a **decrease** from the \$1.70 paid in 2024, ending a historical pattern where the City adjusted rates unilaterally without negotiation.
- **Capital Cost Immunity:** Crucially, the agreement explicitly states that the per-cubic-metre rates already include maintenance and upgrades. The City has committed **not to request additional capital contributions** from Area D during this term, protecting residents from unforeseen spikes.

## 2. Operational Enhancements: Quality and Coordination

Beyond fiscal terms, Bylaw No. 615 modernizes the operational relationship between the two jurisdictions:

- **Improved Water Quality Reporting:** The City is now mandated to provide a comprehensive **annual chemical analysis** and **weekly reports** on chlorine, pH, and turbidity from two sample stations.
- **Emergency Response Clause:** A new collaborative clause requires both parties to coordinate restrictions and resource sharing during supply emergencies, such as droughts or infrastructure failures.

## 3. Governance Dynamics:

The procedural handling of these motions serves as a primary exhibit of your **"Forward"** platform's commitment to **functional governance**.

- **The Sinnott/City Alliance:** All four motions were moved by **Director Susan Sinnott** (Campbell River), highlighting the strategic partnership between Area D and the City center to manage regional infrastructure.
- **Administrative Efficiency:** By utilizing a "procedural blitz" to move from report receipt to final adoption in a single session, you avoided the "administrative red tape" that often delays critical service renewals.

## 4. Strategic Campaign Application for 2026

In the context of the **October 17, 2026 election**, this record provides documented proof of your **results-oriented leadership**.

- **The Narrative:** You can prove to voters that you are the candidate who "protects

their pocketbooks" while securing their water future. You delivered a contract that actually **lowered their base water rate**.

- **The Message:** *"I am moving Area D **forward** by ensuring our essential services are managed with integrity. By leading the Board to adopt the 2025–2026 water agreement, I have secured a rate decrease for our residents and locked in capital cost protections. We have ended the era of unilateral price hikes and replaced it with a professional, data-backed partnership that guarantees both our water security and our fiscal stability".*

In summary, carrying motions **SRD 560/25 through 563/25** provides the **administrative continuity** necessary to manage Area D's most vital utility. It documents your role as a **principled steward** who prioritizes regional health and grant-supported infrastructure.