

The YouTube video provided corresponds to the official recording of the **Strathcona Regional District (SRD) Board Meeting held on 21 August 2024** 1. This session was a significant procedural milestone, addressing major environmental restoration proposals, the foundational study for regional recreation funding, and localized community grants.

The following is an insightful summary of the key deliberations and outcomes:

1. Caddisfly (Catfish Fly) Creek Restoration Project

A delegation from the **Greenways Land Trust** and local Streamkeepers presented a feasibility study and action plan to restore **Caddisfly Creek** (located between Area D and Campbell River) 1.

- **The Proposal:** The project aims to transition the creek from a channelized ditch back into a productive **Coho salmon habitat** 1. The presenters identified an impassable Ministry of Transportation (MoTI) culvert at Highway 19A as the primary bottleneck and requested a **\$32,000 grant** from the Disaster Resilience and Innovation Fund (DRIF) for preliminary planning 1.
- **The Outcome:** The Board initially **deferred the proposal** during this meeting to ensure formal consultation with the City of Campbell River 2, 3. This strategic pause ensured a unified regional front, eventually leading to a First Nations-led application for the project 3.

2. Regional Recreation Facility Feasibility Study

A major highlight of the meeting was the presentation by **RC Strategies** regarding the future of regional recreation 4, 5.

- **Technical Foundation:** This study served as the technical baseline for the most contentious fiscal debate of the term: the expansion of the **Strathcona Gardens** funding model 5.
- **Catchment Findings:** Using a "**45-minute drive radius**" test, the study proved that facilities like Strathcona Gardens functionally serve a broader region than their current funding base 4, 6. Notably, the data revealed that **Quadra Island residents** account for **66% of all non-contributing regional accounts** at the facility 6.
- **Board Conflict:** The presentation triggered a sharp debate, with Electoral Area directors expressing concern over potential tax burdens on smaller communities and the financial liability of aging legacy infrastructure 4.

3. Grants-in-Aid & Financial Assistance (Area C)

The Board authorized several localized funding packages for organizations in **Electoral Area C (Quadra Island)** 7:

- **\$2,500** to the **Quadra Island Foundation** to assist with data collection for a Vital Signs report.
- **\$1,500** to the **Quadra Island Conservancy and Stewardship Society** for liability insurance.
- **\$1,000** to **Quadra Island Concerts** for administrative and winter musical programming.

4. Strategic Context and Governance

The public portion of the meeting adjourned at approximately the 3-hour and 18-minute

mark, at which point the Board moved into a **closed (in-camera) session** to discuss legal, property, or personnel matters 7.

In the context of the **October 2026 local election**, this meeting is a primary exhibit for the **"Forward"** campaign narrative 8. Proponents of regional stability point to the **RC Strategies study** as independent, professional proof that the SRD's historical recreation funding model was a **"50-year misalignment"** that unfairly burdened Campbell River and Area D taxpayers 8, 9. Conversely, the "rural block" utilizes the resistance documented here to frame their opposition as a defense of island residents against "urban tax downloading" 10.