REGIONAL DISTRICT OF NANAIMO

NEWS RELEASE

November 10, 2026

The Regional District of Nanaimo Welcomes New and Returning Directors to its Board for a Four-Year Term

The Regional District of Nanaimo's (RDN) 2026-2030 Directors were sworn into office at its inaugural board meeting on November 10, 2026. A total of sixteen elected officials representing the RDN's seven electoral areas and four municipalities took oaths of office and became its Board of Directors for a four-year term.

The 2026-2030 RDN Board of Directors are:

Electoral Areas	**Director**
Electoral Area A - South Wellington, Cassidy, Cedar	Jessica Stanley
Electoral Area B - Gabriola & Surrounding Islands	Vanessa Craig
Electoral Area C - Extension, East Wellington, Pleasant Valley	Lauren Melanson
Electoral Area E - Nanoose Bay	Joseph Ringwald
Electoral Area F - Coombs, Hilliers, Errington	Chris Burger
Electoral Area G - Englishman River, San Pareil, French Creek, Little Qualicum, Dashwood	Lehann Wallace
Electoral Area H - Shaw Hill, Deep Bay, Bowser	Stuart McLean
Member Municipalities	**Director**
City of Parksville	Shelly McCullough
Town of Qualicum Beach	Adam Walker
District of Lantzville	Mark Swain
City of Nanaimo	Leonard Krog
City of Nanaimo	Ben Geselbracht
City of Nanaimo	Paul Manly
City of Nanaimo	Hilary Eastmure
City of Nanaimo	Sheryl Armstrong
City of Nanaimo	Andréa Coutu

Director Stuart McLean was elected Chair of the RDN Board and Director Lauren Melanson was elected Vice-Chair, both by acclamation. Provincial legislation requires regional districts to annually elect a Chair and a Vice-Chair at the first meeting of the Board after November 1. The Chair and Vice-Chair positions are held for a one-year term.

Quotes

"I'm honoured to return as Board Chair and to work alongside the Board of Directors on key regional priorities that address residents' needs and improve quality of life. Collaboration on these priorities is essential to help make the region an even better place to live, now and for future generations."

Stuart McLean, Chair, Regional District of Nanaimo

"I'm grateful for the opportunity to serve as Vice-Chair and support the Chair in carrying out the important work of the Board in our region. I look forward to working together to address community priorities and support the services residents rely on."

Lauren Melanson, Vice-Chair, Regional District of Nanaimo

For more information on the RDN Board, visit rdn.ca/regional-board.

Key Points

- The RDN's 16-member Board begins a four-year term following its inaugural meeting on November 10, 2026.
- The Board represents residents across seven electoral areas and four municipalities - the City of Nanaimo, District of Lantzville, City of Parksville and Town of Qualicum Beach.
- The Board elects a Chair and Vice-Chair annually, with each serving a one-year term.

Quick Facts

- Established in 1967, the RDN provides regional government and services to communities on Vancouver Island's central east coast.
- The 16-member RDN Board includes 9 directors from municipal councils and seven directors elected by electoral area residents.
- The Board oversees regional operations, adopts local bylaws and sets public policy.



Regional District of Nanaimo Board

Back Row, left to right: Shelly McCullough, Adam Walker, Joseph Ringwald, Ben Geselbracht, Paul Manly, Leonard Krog, Stuart McLean (chair), Mark Swain, Chris Burger, Sheryl Armstrong

Front Row, left to right: Lehann Wallace, Lauren Melanson (vice-chair), Hilary Eastmure, Jessica Stanley, Vanessa Craig, Andréa Coutu

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