

Sandy Hook Community Association

August 9, 2012

Andre Boel
Acting Director of Development Services
District of Sechelt
P.O. Box 129
Sechelt, BC V0N 3A0

Dear Mr. Boel:

Re: Sandy Hook Community Association response to proposed OCP Bylaw No. 492,2010 amendment.

As you requested in your August 3, 2012 email to Gene Scanlan, our SHCA Secretary, we are advising you of the Sandy Hook Community Association's response to the proposed amendment to OCP Bylaw No. 492,2010 which presently prohibits private operation of package sewage treatment plants in the District, except for resorts. As you know, the proposed change, if passed, will allow private operation of such plants in any residential area.

The SHCA Board of Directors met on Monday evening, August 6 and discussed this issue. Our discussion included some background on package treatment plants and BC provincial requirements for the design, building and operation of these plants, and concerns about plant failure due to poor maintenance, power failure, or other causes resulting in unprocessed or partially treated sewage being expelled into the inlet. We also reviewed and discussed both my July 18 letter to Mr. Parfitt on this issue (sent to meet the July 28 deadline for responses and apparently forwarded to you), as well as the response from the Tuwanek Ratepayers Association sent to you on July 29. I have attached copies of these to this email even though you may have received them.

The conclusions of the SHCA Board are:

- We support the questions and issues raised in my July 18 letter.
- While some of the concerns raised in the Tuwanek Ratepayer's Association would only directly affect Tuwanek residents, we support the statements and conclusions of that letter.
- We believe that developers, once construction work is completed, rarely are committed to any continuing services or environmental concerns.
- We believe that the failure of a package treatment plant would damage the water quality in the inlet, thus affecting the recreational use and possibly health of Sechelt residents.
- if any such plant, privately or publicly operated, is allowed, despite community objections, we want to ensure that such a plant is designed, built, and operated in a manner consistent with the Applied Science Technologists & Technicians of British Columbia Sewage System Regulation, and that all those involved in these steps are

registered with that organization as well as meeting any District requirements.

- We want to ensure that this or any such plant, if built, will have backup systems to prevent failure during power outages or other unplanned events and that the plant has safeguards to prevent failure in the event of a landslide, earthquake, or other natural event.; if not, such plants should not be permitted in the District
- Overall, we are opposed to the change in the By-law, as proposed, both for this specific development and for allowing such privately-operated plants in any residential area.
- Because this proposed amendment can affect both Tuwanek residents and potentially all Sechelt residents, we want both full disclosure to the public of the proposed change and a public hearing on this issue before any further action is taken.

The SHCA Board wishes that our concerns be conveyed to the Mayor and the Council.

Thank you for your consideration.

Gray Waddell
President, Sandy Hook Community Association