

Dear Douglas Routley MLA,

Thank you for taking the time to review this letter. I discussed the details with Karen Cooling and she asked that we forward the details to you.

It is with great concern that we write to let you know about the Red Tape that is infecting the North Cowichan Municipal office and the future of our lovely Community.

Our concerns are not with the municipal office or the Mayor. As a matter of fact we think the Municipal Staff are doing a great job (as short staffed as they are) but they are being bullied by Councillors Marsh, Justice and Douglas who are trying to delay the new hospital and reduce the planned housing in the Local Area Plan. These councillors have their own political agenda and are arbitrarily trying to change our voted upon and approved plan which VIHA required and registered on title before they purchased the land.

The Bell McKinnon LAP was developed with input from North Cowichan Staff, Residents, Business Owners, Landowners, Cowichan Tribes and Vancouver Island Health Authority. This LAP received the Gold Award in Policy Planning at the Land Summit meeting in Vancouver in 2019 and was recognized for being a "model green growth centre that is a vibrant, walkable urban village".

There are applications currently sitting dormant at the municipality that would responsibly build multifamily homes with park area and walking trails just as the plan required. Our application has been in for over a year and is constantly being delayed. We have invested our life savings in purchasing and assembling 31 acres within blocks of the new hospital along the main corridor (Bell McKinnon and Herd Roads) which we worked alongside the Municipal Office to build what they required which are mainly rental building.

We are currently in a housing crisis and are starting to build a Billion dollar Hospital, a new RCMP station, a new High School, the Crofton Ferry Terminal and now a New Elementary School for the Bell Mckinnon area.

How do we intend to house the 700+ hospital staff including doctors and nurses and the several hundred people it will take to build the hospital when we cannot even house our local families?

How does limiting growth and requiring newcomers to drive from places like Langford and Victoria GREEN?

A representative from VIHA stated their concerns at a recent council meeting that they already have lost doctors because they cannot find homes in the area. What is going to

happen when we have the hospital built? Can't run a hospital without doctors, nurses and staff.

We took our life savings from the sale of our business and invested 13 million on property inside this Award Winning LAP and can have 150 rental building built within 24 months if the red tape can be removed immediately. Our complete development application has been sitting since Nov 13, 2020 awaiting approval.

On the radio we heard you stand up and say that you want to remove the Red Tape and help get housing moving and appreciate the sentiment and would love to see action.

We ask that you ensure that our Award Winning Bell McKinnon Local Area Plan that was voted on by our community be saved from a few people with their political agendas.

Please help the taxpayer and voters save hundreds of thousands of dollars and years of time to keep our LAP and Hospital on track with no changes.

In addition we have 168 pages of e mail through FOI between Councillor Justice and Modus the marketing company they hired to try to delay and change the LAP which our lawyer is sifting through to see if we have any legal avenues to proceed with. This is not what we want - we just would like to have our application considered under the current guidelines rather than something that may or may not be in place in the future.

Attached below is our 10 year plan with phase one being 150 unit multi-family rentals along Bell Mckinnon within walking distance to new hospital.

We thank you for your time and consideration in resolving our communities Red Tape issue which has been ongoing here for years.

Respectfully,

Elaine and John Lichtenwald