

REGIONAL DISTRICT OF NANAIMO

**REGULAR BOARD MEETING
TUESDAY, OCTOBER 25, 2016
7:00 PM**

*(RDN Board Chambers)
This meeting will be recorded*

A D D E N D U M

5. COMMUNICATIONS/CORRESPONDENCE

(All Directors – One Vote)

2 **William Norman, Little Qualicum Water Works District**, re Water Treatment.

3-4 **Kelly Olson**, re Cell coverage for the French Creek Area.

5 **Richard and Sandra Wahlgren**, re Development Variance Permit Application No. PL2016-140 – 5078 Longview Drive, Electoral Area 'H'.

Board of Trustees

LITTLE QUALICUM WATER WORKS DISTRICT

P.O. Box 277
Qualicum Beach, B.C.
V9K 1S8

RDN CAO'S OFFICE	
CAO	GM RP
GM SCD	GM TSW
GM RCU	DF
DCS	CPC AGENDA
OCT 21 2016	
BOARD / COW AGENDA	
BOARD CORRESPONDENCE	
CHAIR	

Billing Information
Telephone 752-6948

Mr Joe Stanhope,
Regional District, Area G,
Regional District of Nanaimo,
6300, Hammond Bay Road,
Nanaimo,
B.C. V9T 6N2.

Oct 17, 2016.

Dear Mr Stanhope,

Re: Water Treatment.


Island Health have mandated Secondary Treatment for our Water System estimated costs for this by our Engineer are \$940,000.00 Dollars.

We would like your assistance in funding from the Provincial and Federal Governments for Water Infrastructure projects similar to the San Parel Water System.

Please contact us for further information.

Yours truly,

Board of Trustees,

per 
William Norman (Chairman)
Phone 250-752-6266.

WAN/kpb

RDN Board:

The RDN has assisted the residents of French Creek related to the proposed TELUS Sunrise tower by rescinding the letter of concurrence and indicating that the RDN is at IMPASSE. For that we are very grateful. The RDN previously indicated that they are not able to do anything further and that we should concentrate our efforts in another direction. Accepting that, we approached the MP Gord Johns' office and asked for assistance.

They contacted Minister Bains office and provided the details of the current situation in French Creek related to the proposed cell towers. Interestingly, the responses received from the Minister's office indicate that the RDN does still have a role in the process and can enter into discussions with TELUS and Rogers to work out a solution. Their comment was as follows:

"ISED is continuing to work with both parties regarding the proposed site and evaluating possible alternatives." (This appears to be referring to the Rogers site...we have asked for clarification. However, with regards to the Sunrise site, it does not appear that they have the ability to do anything other than approve or not approve the site) "In addition, the Regional District of Nanaimo can institute the necessary dialogue with Telus and Rogers to achieve the same result. There is no independent review board or any other such mechanisms in the antenna siting process."

The current situation regarding the proposed TELUS tower is that ISED is to make a decision regarding the Sunrise site based on additional information received from both TELUS and the RDN to determine whether the site is at impasse and then ultimately whether TELUS can proceed with the site.

From discussion with RDN staff, the RDN is currently on hold (relating to this site) waiting to hear ISED's decision. They are not in discussion with TELUS other than through the formal letters copied to TELUS through ISED.

So what happens if it is determined that the Sunrise site is at IMPASSE....the federal policy is to still consider whether there is an alternative existing location and if not, they would likely allow TELUS to proceed (ISED's mandate is to ensure that telecommunication providers can get service into an area).

The problem is that there currently is no alternative site for TELUS. They have indicated that the Qualicum Beach water tower will not provide coverage to their target area (too far west). **And even if TELUS did proceed with the water tower, Rogers also has a cell tower there and yet they want to put another tower in French Creek which demonstrates that the water tower is not a complete solution for the French Creek area.**

Therefore, IMPASSE does not solve the cell coverage issue; people are pushing the RDN, TELUS, Rogers and ISED to get cell service into the French Creek area.

There needs to be a solution for all of the providers.

We have spoken to Rogers and they still want to provide service to the French Creek area and although they are not at impasse, they too need a solution for providing service to this area.

It should be noted that ISED has been clear that they will not tell a telecommunications company that they should find a different site or that they should work with another provider – in fact they have been emphatic that they cannot do so.

Therefore, the RDN needs to be proactive in this process....just waiting for ISED to make a decision regarding the Sunrise site is not going to provide a solution. There is still poor cell coverage in this area. If they tell TELUS to proceed, then there is still the issue of Rogers finding a site. If they tell TELUS they cannot proceed, then there is the issue of both TELUS and Rogers finding a site. The RDN needs to press the providers now to work together to achieve a solution and not to wait for the ISED decision.

This can happen as demonstrated by the recent application for the cell tower in Cedar where the provider listened to the RDN by finding locations, consulting the people and securing other providers. This appears to have resulted in a positive outcome. We would like the same process to occur in French Creek.

We respectfully request that the RDN engage all providers in communication and work with them to find one site that would work for all (currently the Drew Rd site appears to be the best alternative as it has already been secured and for all the other reasons previously stated but perhaps there is RDN property that may be a possible/better alternative). Please engage TELUS and Roger in this discussion and ask what they need to provide service to their customers; this appears to be what ISED recommends being done. I do believe that the telecommunication providers will work with the RDN if their needs and concerns are addressed on a timely basis.

PLEASE negotiate with TELUS and Rogers.....consider supporting the Drew Rd site or some alternative site and requesting TELUS and Rogers work together with you to find a solution.

Failure to try to negotiate now will likely result in the Sunrise site being approved and then the RDN will have to two further applications for this area: one for Rogers and a second tower for TELUS (two tower model). This means that the RDN will have to go through this all over again...twice. Being proactive now could prevent this and would ensure just one tower is constructed to accommodate of all of providers and would give the residents the cell coverage that they are demanding.

Please:

- Contact Rogers
- Contact TELUS
- Contact ISED to let them know that you are working on a solution

We would like to thank the Board for listening to our concerns.

Thank you,

Kelly Olson

(Copies of the emails from the MP's office have been provided to RDN staff.)

From: Sandra Wahlgren
Sent: Monday, October 24, 2016 6:57 AM
Subject: Variance application PL2016-140

Good morning,

Regarding Notice of Development Variance Permit Application No. PL2016-140 at 5078 Longview Drive, we are the homeowners of the next door property at 5082 Longview Drive, Lot A Plan29862.

As such we have no objection to the proposed variance by Allan and Sherrie West to build a garage on their property.

Regards,

Richard and Sandra Wahlgren