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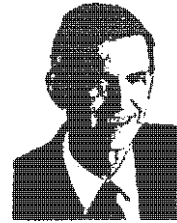
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**Province of  
British Columbia  
Legislative Assembly**



**Simon Gibson, MLA**  
Abbotsford-Mission

October 23, 2013

Attention: Gaming Grants Office, Ministry of Finance

I am writing to express my support for the Mission Humane Society and their application for a grant from your office.

The Executive Director, Celia Durst - and a board member - visited my office recently and explained

s22

s22

Today, the Humane Society is well run and highly regarded by the Mission community. I visited their downtown Mission location and was impressed with the level of attention to the large number of stray cats in their care. They provide a valuable community service and all cats are spayed or neutered before being made available for adoption.

s22

I hope you will accede to their request when you receive their grant application in the next few weeks.

Best regards,

Simon Gibson

MLA (Abbotsford-Mission)

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**Province of  
British Columbia  
Legislative Assembly**

154230



Laurie Throness, M.L.A.  
Chilliwack-Hope

September 25, 2013

Hon. Coralee Oakes  
Minister of Community, Sport and Cultural Development  
Legislative Buildings  
Victoria, BC  
V8V 1X4

Dear Minister:

*Coralee*

MINISTRY OF COMMUNITY, SPORT AND CULTURAL DEVELOPMENT MINISTER'S OFFICE <b>RECEIVED</b> OCT 01 2013 ROUTE TO: _____ CC: _____ DRAFT REPLY <input type="checkbox"/> DM <input type="checkbox"/> FV/FILE <input type="checkbox"/> REPLY DIRECT <input type="checkbox"/> FNA <input type="checkbox"/>
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Re: Cultus Lake Park Board questions

I recently received the attached briefing note from Cultus Lake Park Board. This elected Board is a unique government entity long ago mandated to administer Cultus Lake Park. Since its inception, permanent residents of the Park, as well as tourists, have grown in number, and the Board has also grown in capacity.

The Board has posed a series of questions that relate to the growth in responsibility that goes along with growth in the Park, and has requested that I raise them with you.

I would be grateful if you could provide me with answers to these questions, and I will in turn send your responses along to the Board.

Thank you for your early attention to this important matter.

Sincerely,

Laurie Throness

c: Sacha Peter, Chair  
Cultus Lake Park Board

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**Province of  
British Columbia  
Legislative Assembly**



**Laurie Throness, M.L.A.**  
Chilliwack-Hope

October 31, 2013

Hon. Coralee Oakes  
Minister of Community, Sport and Cultural Development  
Legislative Buildings  
Victoria, BC  
V8V 1X4

Dear Minister:

**Re: Request for Legislation - Cultus Lake Park Act**

After presenting a 926-name petition in the Legislature regarding the Cultus Lake Park Act, after extensive study and meetings with officials from your Ministry, individuals and officials from Cultus Lake Park, and MLAs John Martin and Mike de Jong, I would like to request changes to the Cultus Lake Park Act that would receive Royal Assent prior to the next municipal election on November 15, 2014.

At present, the people of Chilliwack elect five of seven Park Board Commissioners, which results in a lack of accountability to the people and community of Cultus Lake. Proposed changes would streamline the Board and assist in making it more accountable to the people it serves. They would also allow the Board to function more as a municipality, preparing for a future time when it will gain some type of municipal status.

In addition to a Request for Legislation, we would request a meeting with you at your earliest convenience to make our case in person.

Please find below the list of highest-priority changes:

1. Provide that all commissioners be elected by the people of Cultus Lake.
2. Reduce the number of commissioners from seven to five.
3. Indemnify the City of Chilliwack from actions by the Board.
4. Grant the Board the power to apply for grants and other government programs, as other municipalities do.

Please find below the list of changes that are of secondary priority:

5. Grant the Board the power to do building inspections.
6. Grant the Board the authority to levy fines of up to \$100 (double the present amount).

- 
7. Alter Section 8 of the Act to include members of the Board who, as a function of the Board, breach the Act or the Board's bylaws.

The above lists are outcome-based; your legislative drafters will know the correct wording to accomplish our ends, and we look forward to their advice in this regard.

Thank you for your early consideration of this important request.

Sincerely,



Laurie Throness

cc: John Martin, MLA  
Mike de Jong, House Leader  
Cultus Lake residents committee

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[linda.reimer.mla@leg.bc.ca](mailto:linda.reimer.mla@leg.bc.ca)



BRITISH  
COLUMBIA  
Parliamentary Secretary  
to the  
Ministry of Community, Sport and Cultural  
Development



Linda Reimer, MLA

October 3, 2013

All Government Caucus Members

Dear Colleagues:

I am writing to ensure you are aware of the White Paper on Local Government Elections Reform that was released by the Ministry of Community, Sport and Cultural Development earlier this month. I would truly value the input of all government caucus members as we move forward to bring about the most significant changes to local government elections in nearly 20 years. Local government elections rules apply to municipalities, regional districts, parks boards, the Islands Trust, and boards of education, and the proposed changes will affect candidates, elector organizations and third party advertising sponsors in every community across our province.

As you may be aware, the joint Provincial and UBCM Local Government Elections Task Force released a set of 31 recommendations in 2010. I appreciate all the contributions made by Honourable Bill Bennett, as co-chair of the Task Force, and in his previous role as Minister responsible for local government.

Due to their scope and complexity, government is taking a phased approach to implementing the recommendations. The first phase would see legislation introduced in the spring of 2014 to implement the majority of the Task Force's recommendations in time for the November 2014 local elections with a focus on accountability, transparency, compliance and enforcement, and education. Expense limits will not be implemented in 2014. The second phase will include a stakeholder outreach process on expense limits, leading to recommendations for government consideration in 2014 and the development of further legislative changes planned for 2015.

The White Paper can be found at the following website: [www.LocalGovElectionReform.gov.bc.ca](http://www.LocalGovElectionReform.gov.bc.ca). You are also welcome to contact Mr. Matt Holme, Chief of Staff in the Community, Sport and Cultural Development Minister's Office, by telephone at: 250 387-2283, for a hard copy of the White Paper. The deadline for comment on the White Paper is October 23, 2013.

All Government Caucus Members

Page 2

Again, I value and look forward to your feedback on the proposed changes to local elections legislation. Comments can be sent to the following address: [Localgovelectionreform@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Localgovelectionreform@gov.bc.ca); however, please do not hesitate to contact me directly should you have any questions.

Kind regards,

Linda Reimer  
Parliamentary Secretary for Communities

pc: Honourable Coralee Oakes  
Minister of Community, Sport and Cultural Development

Honourable Peter Fassbender  
Minister of Education

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Toll-Free: 1 877 771-7557  
e-mail: Greg.Kylo.MLA@leg.bc.ca



Province of  
British Columbia  
Legislative Assembly



Greg Kylo, M.L.A.  
Shuswap

October 18, 2013

Honourable Coralee Oakes  
Ministry of Community, Sport & Cultural Development  
P.O. Box 9042 STN PROV GOVT  
Victoria BC, V8W 9E2

Dear Minister Oakes:

As MLA for the Shuswap, I'm very pleased to provide this letter of support for the City of Armstrong and the Township of Spallumcheen in their efforts to secure funding to facilitate a long term water strategy for providing safe, potable water to both communities with a jointly collaborative approach for future management. Their attached documents have articulated their concerns very clearly.

In phase one of this project, the municipalities have identified 6 of their water districts to start, with further conversion of other water districts within their municipalities to follow. Swift commencement of the project is of utmost importance to both communities, to ensure a continued cooperation and collaboration that is well established with the support of the province.

Ensuring safe, potable water for the residents of Armstrong/Spallumcheen is the objective of these two municipalities, and I strongly support these efforts.

I'm unreservedly supportive of the City of Armstrong and the Township of Spallumcheen in their efforts to secure funding for this extremely important project, and I look forward to continuing that support whenever possible.

Yours truly,

Greg Kylo, MLA  
Shuswap

Attachments  
hc

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RALPH SULTAN, M.L.A.  
Member of the Legislative Assembly  
West Vancouver - Capilano

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MINISTRY OF COMMUNITY,  
SPORT AND CULTURAL DEVELOPMENT  
MINISTER'S OFFICE  
**RECEIVED**  
SEP 04 2013  
ROUTE TO: 154142  
CC: ☐ DRAFT REPLY ☐ DM ☐ FIVEFILE ☐  
☐ REPLY DIRECT ☐ FNA ☐

s22

SEP 17 2013  
SEP 13 2013  
August 29, 2013  
LG-PAS

Thank you for your most recent email dated August 20, 2013 on the subject of BC Assessment appeal process with respect to the perceived unfairness of valuations and assessments of properties in your neighbourhood particularly under the influx of offshore investors and helicopter families which may cause extreme price inflation.

My office contacted the BC Assessment Manager to better understand the current appeal process. You may be aware there are two levels of review: the Property Assessment Review Panel and the Property Assessment Appeal Board.

The first level of appeal is the Property Assessment Review Panel (PARP). There are 75 regional panels. Panel members are independent members of the business community with relevant skills chosen on merit. They consider the evidence presented by the applicant and also by BC Assessment. Information about the PARP is on <http://www.cscd.gov.bc.ca/parp/>

If an appeal applicant is not satisfied with the decision of their regional PARP, they can apply to the second level, the Property Assessment Appeal Board. Again, board members are independent and industry professionals. The setting of this process is more formal with the result being a more detailed written decision. It resembles a court hearing with two sides presenting their evidence, to be judged. <http://www.assessmentappeal.bc.ca/default.aspx>

We were informed that applicants who prove to be successful with their appeal are generally well prepared and provide copies of assessment of similar properties, details of improvements or lack of improvements and most importantly evidence of actual sales in their neighbourhood. (Not all applicants do their homework.)

It appears that *market value* assessment is used in the vast majority of jurisdictions across North America. While not perfect, it is considered to be the fairest method of assessing property.

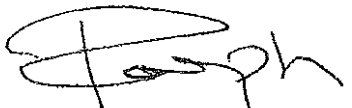


My office received a copy of Rob Fraser's (Executive Director of BC Assessment) April 29, 2013 email to you. He acknowledged your suggestion of an alternative method of assessing value based on recent sale price increased and escalated in accordance with the Median Sales Price for the area as published by the Real Estate Board of Greater Vancouver, has some merit.

I am sending a copy of your February 24, 2013 letter s22 to the Honourable Coralee Oakes, Minister of Community, Sport and Cultural Development, to make her aware of your concerns and your suggestions on how to improve the assessment and appeal process.

It was good to hear from you, s22

Yours truly,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Ralph', with a large, stylized loop at the beginning.

Ralph Sultan, MLA  
West Vancouver-Capilano

cc: Honourable Coralee Oakes  
Minister of Community, Sport and Cultural Development  
Attachment – February 24 2013 North Shore News letter