

REGIONAL DISTRICT OF NANAIMO

**REGULAR BOARD MEETING
TUESDAY, MARCH 25, 2014
7:10 PM**

(RDN Board Chambers)

A D D E N D U M

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- 2. LATE DELEGATIONS** (requires motion – All Directors – One Vote)
- 2 **Ian Gartshore**, re Nanaimo Recycling Exchange – Funding Options and Future of Facility.
- 3 **Dirk Becker**, re Value of Nanaimo Recycling Exchange to our Community.
- 4 **Tim McGrath**, re Nanaimo Recycling Exchange.
- 5. COMMUNICATIONS/CORRESPONDENCE** (All Directors – One Vote)
- 5-11 **Correspondence – March, 2014** re Proposed Waste-to-Energy Facility.

Re: Nanaimo Recycling Exchange – Funding Options and Future of Facility

From: Ian Gartshore

Sent: Friday, March 21, 2014 1:00 PM

Subject: Request to be a delegation

I would like to request to be a delegation for the RDN Directors meeting on Tuesday. My subject will be how to fund the Nanaimo Recycling Exchange and its future as our region's Resource Recovery Centre.

Thank you,

Ian.

Ian Gartshore
Nanaimo, B.C.

Re: Value of Nanaimo Recycling Exchange to our Community

From: Dirk Becker - Zero Waste Canada

Sent: Friday, March 21, 2014 2:08 PM

Subject: Request to be a delegation

I would like to request to be a delegation for the RDN Directors meeting on Tuesday.

My focus will be the socio-cultural, economic and environmental value of the NRE to our community such as the roughly \$200,000.00 dollars contributed just last year in the form of volunteer hours.

Thank You!

Yours, Dirk Becker

Re: Nanaimo Recycling Exchange

From: Tim Mcgrath

Sent: Friday, March 21, 2014 3:56 PM

Subject: March 25 2014

I would like to appear at the RDN meeting as a delagate to speak on the matter of the NRE.

I understand I will be limited to 5 min. Whom do I check in with on my arrival (if required).

Thank you.

Tim McGrath

From: Linda George

Sent: Saturday, March 22, 2014 10:04 AM

To: John Ruttan; George Anderson; Diane Brennan; Bill Bestwick; Ted Greves; Diana Johnstone; Jim Kipp; Bill McKay; Fred Pattje; sustainability; Building, Email; Planning Email; ENV Services, Email; corpsrv

Subject: History behind Vancouver's Incinerator decision

Below is a link to the history behind the Vancouver Incinerator decision. Vancouver's wish to import their garbage to Nanamio is due to their air quality concerns in the Fraser Valley. <http://www.vancouverobserver.com/news/mind-boggling-path-toward-metro-vancouver-480-million-incineration-plan?page=0,4>

Please note that once a company installs an incinerator, importing garbage from other cities/towns then becomes a profit priority. Incentives to reduce waste and increase community recycling efforts are discouraged.

Incineration creates approximately 10% toxic ash which needs to be disposed in a landfill.

Once a Duke Point Incinerator's Pandora's box has been opened, there will be no back tracking.

Another consideration is Free Trade Agreements. Companies are bought and sold, and any 'maximum quantity' agreements made today can be contested tomorrow. It can be expected that a company will want to increase their profits by increasing the quantity and type of garbage incinerated. Under free trade agreements any government that resists a (foreign interest) company from making profit can be sued. Legally binding decisions can be secretly made by an independent arbitrator that is not obliged to listen to community concerns or follow Canadian governments (all levels) air quality environmental laws.

This Nanamio councils legacy could be a toxic land fill site; polluted air, water, and soil; and money squandered on corporate litigation. OR, it could be a vibrant local food movement; tourist haven; and an enviable livable region.

Linda George,
Gabriola Island

Permission given to print, post and distribute. 250-802-6295

To whom it may concern regarding the proposed Nanaimo Garbage Incinerator.

We unequivocally oppose the building of a garbage incinerating plant at Duke Point. First of all, why is Vancouver's garbage being sent to the Island? Let them deal with their own waste. A community is more likely to take a serious interest in recycling etc when their own waste piles up in their own back yard, and when their taxes etc have to go up to deal with issues of their own causing. We have enough of our own garbage issues here on the Island.

How is incineration of garbage even an option when one looks at environmental and health impact issues? This would appear to be taking a huge step backwards in the "green" movement. It is not cost effective, and whatever jobs would be created, would not come close to jobs lost by not dealing with the garbage in environmentally friendly ways.

As for health; we just watched a parent spend 14 years of their life battling multiple myeloma - a cancer which has environmental causes. 14 years of suffering. 14 years of chemo and pain and side-effects. A slow and painful death. We must be good stewards of what we put into the air that we breathe and the water that we drink and the food that we eat. We are a 45 minute drive from Duke Point, and when the wind blows in our direction, smell the pulp smell that is generated there. The burning of that much garbage, day in and day out, would be able to be smelled here in the pristine environment and lovely rural community of Nanoose Bay. So we would be inhaling toxic particulate matter and byproducts of burning plastics and chemicals etc. Toxic rain would coat our homes and gardens. These are not risks we are prepared to take. Many risks to our health are unavoidable and uncontrollable. This risk we can control - by JUST SAYING NO. NO to the burning of garbage. NO to municipalities shipping their waste to other communities to deal with. NO to harming our environment. NO to harming ourselves and our children.

NO.

Respectfully;
Don and Donna White
3410 Bromley Place,
Nanoose Bay, BC
V9P9L8
donnawhite@shaw.ca

From: Star Bredt
Sent: Friday, March 21, 2014 4:39 PM
To: corpsrv
Subject: Proposed incinerator

I wish to go on record as strongly opposing the installation of a garbage incinerator at Duke Point or any other populated area.

It appeared that the proposal was initially flatly turned down. Now, however, it appears there is some support in political circles for this outrage.

WHAT ARE THESE PEOPLE THINKING?

There appears to be very little benefit to the health and prosperity of the community from such a facility, yet the debate goes on !

Nanaimo has a legacy of strong leadership which made decisions that contributed to the health and beauty of the community in spite of pressure from big business.

There is no doubt that Wheelabrator and Seaspan have deep pockets. that does not make their proposal to dump and BURN hundreds of thousands of tonnes of Vancouver's trash here any more inviting, or any safer. These financial resouces would better serve the community, and indeed, the planet, if they were put to use educating people to reuse and recycle: but that would not serve their purpose to profit whatever the expense to the health and beauty of this area.

Star Bredt
Gabriola, B.C.

From: Rye Green
Sent: Friday, March 14, 2014 7:25 PM
To: mayor&council@nanaimo.ca; mooreg@portcoquitlam.ca; corpsrv;
douglas.routley.mla@leg.bc.ca
Subject: Duke Point Incinerator

To all above officials,

Just one more concerned citizen here, telling you that I and my extended family, who all live within miles of Duke Point (South, in the prevailing summer winds, btw), STRONGLY OPPOSE the plan to burn Vancouver's garbage at DP. If you try to move forward with this plan, we and the surrounding communities will enlist all of our resources to stop it, as we don't believe that you can make such a project safe enough for our health and that of our community/home.

Enclosed is a picture of my new baby nephew. Look in his eyes, and guess how hard we're willing to fight this project.

Thanks for listening,
Hoping you'll respond appropriately,

Rye Green, writing for:

Fred and Karen Green
Joel, Heather, and Gus Green
Aron and Christina Macardy
Peter and Alma Machardy

Yellowpoint, BC

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"Row, row, row your boat, gently down the stream,
merrily, merrily, merrily, merrily, life is but a dream."

-----Original Message-----

From: Harold Allanson

Sent: Friday, March 07, 2014 10:59 AM

To: Bill McKay

Cc: John Ruttan; George Anderson; Diane Brennan; Bill Bestwick; Ted Greves; Diana Johnstone; Jim Kipp; fred.pattje@nanaimo.c; sustainability; Building, Email; Planning Email; ENV Services, Email; corpsrv

Subject: Re: Duke Point Incinerator

Bill

Yes I'd heard that the Saanich facility had to shut down and I'd also heard about the general dissatisfaction of people such as ourselves living and working down wind from those operations. If the Duke Point ICC facility can't deal with this odour issue they may find themselves in a similar position as Saanich.

Comment on your waste to energy facility as you've laid out 1) - 3)

1) Transportation, yes I believe you're right in that Seaspan can transport garbage from the lower mainland on self propelled ferries and that the containers will do the job and prevent leakage. You're also right, I do see Seaspan's modern pusher tug and barge passing along the shores of Gabriola on a regular basis. I also realize human error, faulty equipment, and rough Marine type weather conditions sometimes play an unsuspecting roll in these operations. For instance a number of years ago a very, large Seaspan tug and barge separated off Gabriola with the barge ending up on the rocks and the eventual loss of cargo and barge. If the Duke point operation is developed, then in future it's quite possible a load of garbage from such a wreck could be washing ashore along the shores of the Salish Sea. My point is, serious marine accidents happen all the time, with no two the same but the fact is they do happen. So if there's no facility for the lower mainland's garbage built at Duke Point then there'll be no risk of garbage floating around in our part of Georgia Strait .

2) Metro Vancouver and regional district: Here are a lot of "if's" and "maybe" that a great number of individuals are working very hard to see that they won't have to deal with their own waste in their own municipalities, yet they seem to think it's ok to impact the health and well being in our area should such a facility be built at Duke Point. Which brings to mind Cache Creek, yes remember little Cache Creek, struggling to survive with little or no industrial tax bases other than a few gas stations and motels. Well a number of years ago along came the financial fix a land fill for lower mainland's garbage with the benefits of a few jobs and tax dollars. This land fill operation, operated for many years and then not too long ago Cache Creek and the local natives group said no, no it wouldn't renew the contract for shipping even more mainland trash to their area. So now the garbage no longer goes to Cache Creek, I wonder why? The little town of Cache Creek with its few gas stations and motels looks pretty much as it did pre landfill days. After all there weren't that many local jobs, there's little visual evidence of local wealth, from all those landfill years. But there is a very big pile of garbage just under the surface of the earth, which will pay dividends in contaminated seepage for years to come. So it makes you wonder why they did it? So my question is, what's really in it for us if Duke point goes ahead?

You've mentioned that out of all of this Nanaimo may not even get on the short list. So my point and others like me is, we don't want to be on the short list, nor do we want to be picked, it's not some sort of prize.

3) No, we don't want to serve 12 lower mainland municipalities, The more municipalities the greater the impact and risk. As for some Vancouver Island municipal shipments Victoria comes to mind. Our capital city hasn't or doesn't want to deal with it's raw sewage problem, and remember their composting facility in Saanich has been shutdown and now we're possibly going to be trucking their garbage over the accident prone Malahat to Duke point. How sweet is that.

Bill it's nice to know you've taken the time as a Nanaimo councillor to address my concerns, we differ in that I see this as a lower mainland problem being shifted off to someplace out of sight out of mind, not unlike Cache Creek, I appreciate and respect what you have to say, I simply don't agree with a lot of it.

After all of this we still haven't addressed the elephant in the room have wethe facility it's self!

Enjoy your day.

harold

p.s. My initial email was a blanket one to Nanaimo councillors and other departments so I hope you don't mind if I address my reply to you, to all of them as well.

On Mar 6, 2014, at 7:08 PM, Bill McKay <Bill.McKay@nanaimo.ca> wrote:

> Harold,

>

> Thank you for sharing your thoughts with Council. I would hope I could have a continuing dialogue with you on the subject, and for the time being, offer the following.

>

> I couldn't agree more that the ICC facility at Duke Pt has been a challenge. To that end, the current operators intend to spend \$1M to deal with the odour issue. You may know that there have been similar issues in Chemainus, Mill Bay, and Saanich. In fact the Saanich facility was shut down due to them not being able to take corrective measures.

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> With respect to the waste to energy facility, I just wanted to clarify a couple of points.

>

> 1) Transportation - While there are people out there that would have you believe that raw garbage will be floating around the Salish Sea in open, rusting hulks of barges, nothing could be further from the truth. It is the intent of Seaspan International, to use this project as the impetus to build five new self propelled ro-ro ferries. They would look similar to some of the equipment you see today going past Gabriola. These are scheduled ferries, and it is intended that the post recycled waste would be contained in closed containers, and will share deck space with other goods coming to the island, destined for places like grocery stores, drug stores, and other merchandisers.

>

> 2) Metro Vancouver (their regional district) is not permitted to even start construction anywhere until such time as they have rigid targets in place in the 80% range of diversion of waste. That means, all organics, metals, recyclables, construction waste, anything that can be diverted. Then, there is no guarantee that the Nanaimo site will even be shortlisted.

>

> 3) The facility proposed would service 12 municipalities in the lower mainland, and may well service some on Vancouver Island as well, should this site be selected. Understand, that your statement about dealing with their own is a view held by many in the lower mainland. A facility in Nanaimo is far from guaranteed.

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> If you want to learn more, perhaps you would like to check out www.metrovancouver.org and look up info on their waste to energy proposal. Perhaps you might find the information useful.

>

> Of course, if you want to have further conversation, by all means, don't hesitate to contact me.

>

> Very best regards,

>

> Councillor Bill McKay,

> Nanaimo

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>

>> On Mar 4, 2014, at 8:25 PM, "Harold Allanson" <hallanson@shaw.ca> wrote:

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>> Dear Nanaimo City council and other departments

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>> My wife and I live on Gabriola and this email is protesting in the strongest words possible to prevent the incineration of Vancouver's Garbage at Duke Point. We on Gabriola and South Nanaimo already suffer from poor air quality and putrid smell from the recycle composting facility at Duke Point. Councils first concern should be to get the present composting facility to stop contaminating the air we breath or better yet shut it down before increasing the health hazard to all of us with the construction of an incinerator. In the case of Vancouver garbage, Vancouver created the Garbage so Vancouver should deal with it within its own city boundaries.

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>> Plus have you people stop to consider the retched smell that will be created by garbage barges standing by waiting to be unloaded? Obviously you're only conceded with the financial gain and are willing to accept the fact you'll be sacrificing our health for those gains? Those of you voting for this would most likely feel comfortable messing in your own bath water. I also commend those of you standing up and voting against this madness.

>>

>> This is wrong, please do the right thing and stop this lunacy.

>>

>> Harold and Merrily Allanson

>> 255 James Way

>> Gabriola VOR 1X1