

REGIONAL DISTRICT OF NANAIMO

**COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE
TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 9, 2014
7:00 PM**

(RDN Board Chambers)

A D D E N D U M

PAGE

LATE DELEGATIONS (requires motion)

2 **Fred Bennett**, re Gabriola Island's Descanso Bay Emergency Dock.

CORRESPONDENCE

3-5 **Selina Robinson, MLA**, re Official Opposition Hosted Breakfast and Meetings at 2014 UBCM.

6-8 **David Brown**, re Proposed Medical Marihuana Facility in Yellowpoint.

Re: Gabriola Island's Descanso Bay Emergency Dock

From: Fred Bennett

Sent: Friday, September 05, 2014 2:58 PM

Subject: COW agenda

Hello. We just spoke on the phone and this email is to confirm that I'd like to be placed on the agenda for the Committee of the Whole meeting coming up next Tuesday.

I would like to ask a few questions with regards to the use of Gabriola Island's Descanso Bay "emergency dock" and propose an amendment to the allowed use to include water taxi service. This may not be a new ask, but there is a new development in that I have established a water taxi service in Nanaimo, the lack of which was one of the cited barriers.

--

Regards,

Fred Bennett, o/o
Westcoast Water Taxi
250-816-0567
www.water-taxi.ca



Selina Robinson, MLA
(Coquitlam-Maillardville)



**Province of
British Columbia**
Legislative Assembly

Selina Robinson, MLA
(Coquitlam - Maillardville)
Victoria Office:
Room 201
Parliament Buildings
Victoria, BC V8V 1X4

Community Office:
102 – 1108 Austin Avenue
Coquitlam, BC V3K 3P5
Telephone: 604 933-2001
Facsimile: 604 933-2002

August 28, 2014

Mr. Joe Stanhope, Chair
and Members of the Board
Regional District of Nanaimo
6300 Hammond Bay Road
Nanaimo, BC V9T 6N2

Dear Chair Stanhope and Board Members,

The Members of the Official Opposition are looking forward to attending the upcoming UBCM in Whistler on September 22nd - 26th, and hope to see you at our Official Opposition hosted breakfast on Friday, September 26th, 6:45 am in the Mt. Currie Ballroom at the Whistler Hilton.

I would love the opportunity to meet with you at the UBCM. I look forward to hearing about the needs of your local government, the challenges you are experiencing and to work with you on solutions and recommendations on how to address these challenges. The Official Opposition Caucus also knows that as local government representatives you are acutely in tune with a variety of needs and challenges of your communities. It is with this in mind that we would like to remind you that our caucus representatives are available to meet with you, to hear about your broader community concerns and ideas and to advocate on your behalf.

In reviewing the resolutions to be debated at UBCM, I noted that several local governments are working on issues that my BCNDP Opposition colleagues and I have repeatedly raised in the Legislature. For example;

- Kootenay Boundary Regional District, Cranbrook and the LMLGA Executive have brought forward resolutions calling on the Province to reconsider and properly consult on any changes to BC Ambulance Service Resource Allocation. We also raised this issue in the Legislature this past May.
- Nelson, Victoria, Coldstream, Central Kootenay Regional District and the LMLGA have all submitted resolutions to your membership asking the Province to support and protect the Agricultural Land Reserve. Together, with my caucus colleagues, we debated against Bill 24 for weeks this past legislative session.
- Maple Ridge is bringing forward a resolution asking your membership to support the work my colleague, Michelle Mungall, has been doing to end the child support clawback; a policy that has tremendous impact on the poorest families in our Province.

page.../2

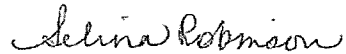


page /2...continued

We applaud you for advocating on behalf of your constituents. If you would like to share what's going on in your community with us, I have included a current list of our caucus and their respective portfolios.

If you would like to set up a meeting with any of us while we are in Whistler, please contact Jared Butcher at 250-953-4607 or via email jared.butcher@leg.bc.ca

All the best,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Selina Robinson".

Selina Robinson, MLA
Opposition Advocate for Local Government

enclosure

NEW DEMOCRAT

OFFICIAL OPPOSITION

<http://bcndpcaucus.ca> phone: 250-387-3655
email: ndp@leg.bc.ca twitter: @bcndpcaucus

Backgrounder

July 23, 2014

NEW DEMOCRAT OFFICIAL OPPOSITION SHADOW CABINET

Leader, Official Opposition John Horgan

ECONOMIC SECTORS TEAM

Advanced Education, Caucus Vice Chair Kathy Corrigan
Agriculture and Food Lana Popham
B.C. Hydro Adrian Dix
Coastal Economic Development, Small Business, Arts and Culture Nicholas Simons
Economic Development, Jobs, Labour and Skills, Caucus Chair Shane Simpson
Energy and Mines Norm Macdonald
Finance Carole James
Deputy Finance, ICBC Mable Elmore
Forests, Lands and Natural Resource Operations Harry Bains
Deputy Forests – Coastal Bill Routley
Deputy Forests – Forest Futures, Citizen Services Doug Routley
Green Economy, Technology, Translink George Heyman
Interior Economic Development, Columbia Power, Columbia River Treaty Katrine Conroy
Natural Gas Development, Trade, Immigration, Multiculturalism Bruce Ralston
Deputy Trade, Immigration, Multiculturalism Jane Shin
Northern Economic Development Robin Austin
Tourism, Housing and Liquor Policy, B.C. Housing, B.C. Lottery Corporation,
B.C. Pavilion Corporation, Destination B.C., Liquor Distribution Branch David Eby
Transportation and Infrastructure, B.C. Ferries, B.C. Transit Claire Trevena

STRONGER COMMUNITIES TEAM

Aboriginal Relations and Reconciliation, Caucus Deputy Whip Scott Fraser
Children and Family Development Doug Donaldson
Community Living B.C. Jenny Kwan
Democratic Reform, Deputy Environment, Fisheries and B.C. Ferries Gary Holman
Education Rob Fleming
Environment Spencer Chandra Herbert
Health Judy Darcy
Justice (Attorney General) Leonard Krog

Dear Yellowpoint Neighbours,

Re: Opposition to the Wildflower Marijuana Inc.'s Licence Application for the Construction and Operation of a Medical Marijuana Industrial Facility in Yellowpoint, Nanaimo, British Columbia

We would like to let you know that we have submitted the attached letter to Federal Minister of Health Rona Ambrose. We have also submitted similar letters to our local MP Jean Crowder, Provincial Minister of Environment, Mary Polack, our local MLA Mr. Doug Routley, and our Regional Nanaimo District representative Alec McPherson.

We have also sent a letter to William MacLean, CEO and President, Wildflower Marijuana Inc. stating that we are strongly opposed to his licence application for the Yellowpoint area.

We are in the process of preparing a Petition so that everyone's voice can be heard. We are asking our MP Jean Crowder to work with us on it so that it can be certified and she can then present it in the House of Commons.

I have offered to be the point person in these efforts and Frances Lasser, who has many years of government relations experience, has offered to assist with our strategy and prepare the letters and Petition.

We expect to have the Petition ready early next week. If you have any question, please do not hesitate to contact me at 250 245 2809 or daveandsuebrown@shaw.ca.

Thank you for your support.

David and Sue Brown

Yellowpoint Concerned Citizens
3048 Quennell Road,
Nanaimo, BC V9X 1K5

September 2, 2014

The Honourable Rona Ambrose, P.C., M.P.
Minister of Health
Health Canada
Brooke Claxton Building, Tunney's Pasture
Postal Locator: 0906C
Ottawa, Ontario K1A 0K9

Re: Opposition to the Wildflower Marijuana Inc.'s Licence Application for the Construction and Operation of a Medical Marihuana Industrial Facility in Yellowpoint, Nanaimo, British Columbia

Dear Minister Ambrose,

We represent a group of concerned citizens and we would like your support in our opposition to the construction and operation of a Medical Marihuana Industrial Facility on Quennell Road in Yellowpoint Nanaimo, British Columbia. On August 21, 2014 William MacLean, CEO and President, Wildflower Marijuana Inc., stated in a Nanaimo Daily News article that his company was preparing a licence application to build and operate a facility in the Yellowpoint area. Through our research we have identified that this facility would be located at 3055 Quennell Road, Yellowpoint, Nanaimo. Yellowpoint is a farming community and is not suited for an industrial facility for the research, commercial production and sale of medical marihuana.

1. Public Health and Safety Concerns

We draw your attention to the Marihuana for Medical Purposes Regulation SOR/2013-199 Section 26(1) (h) that states "the Minister must refuse to issue, renew or amend a producer's licence in the following cases ... the licence would likely create a risk to public health, safety or security, including the risk of cannabis being diverted to an illicit market or use". Based on this section of the regulation a marihuana industrial facility on Quennell Road would jeopardize public health and safety for the following reasons:

1.1 The growing and selling of marijuana, outside of medical usage, is illegal thus attracting criminal activity in the unsecured environment of 3055 Quennell Road is of serious concern. The property at 3055 Quennell Road borders on several private residential properties with occupied homes that are within 25 metres of the fence line. The Marihuana for Medical Purposes Regulation SOR/2013-199 Sections 41-51 states that the property and the facility require "visual monitoring, visual recording devices, intrusion detection system, and monitoring by personnel". This industrial facility will not only change the nature of our community, it will also put the surrounding private residences at enormous security risk from potential criminal activity and illegal intrusions.

1.2 Waste Discharge – the discharge of air and ground waste from the industrial facility will have a negative impact on the health of the neighbours, wildlife and the environment.

1.3 Infrastructure – Quennell Road, and many of the surrounding roads, is single lane and was not built for commercial industrial usage. There is no safe parking along the roadsides. Significant increased traffic for employees, suppliers, shippers, etc. will cause a safety risk to the current residents and the wildlife such as deer, beaver, otter, migratory birds, and song birds.

1.4 The hydroponic nature of marijuana production requires a high volume of water. Currently the 3055 Quennell Road property has two homes that obtain their supply from drilled wells with a high sulphur content. A water supply would need to be sourced by drilling additional wells. Usage of water for the industrial facility would have significant negative impact on the current domestic water requirements in the neighbourhood. Water shortage is a constant concern for people in the Yellowpoint area who rely on this same source of ground water.

1.5 No public consultation has been conducted to transform Yellowpoint from a farming community to a commercial industrial area. In addition, no environmental impact assessment has been conducted on the effects of a commercial industrial facility on air quality, ground pollution, wildlife impact and water supply.

2. Violation of the Licence Regulation re: non-dwelling area.

2.1 We would like to bring your attention to Marihuana for Medical Purposes Regulation SOR/2013-199 Section 23 that states “(1) To apply for a producer’s licence, a person must submit to the Minister an application that contains the following information ... (f) a declaration signed and dated by the proposed senior person in charge stating that the proposed site is not a dwelling place”. The property at 3055 Quennell Road is a private property with an owner’s residence and a rental property that are both fully occupied.

Please Do Not approve the Wildflower Marijuana’s Licence Application

As a group of concerned citizens whose health, safety and neighbourhood would be enormously affected by transformation of our community from an agriculture area to a commercial industrial area, we ask that you do not approve Wildflower Marijuana Inc.’s application for a marihuana industrial facility in the Yellowpoint area.

Please note that we are in the process of preparing a Petition to be presented in the House of Commons by our local M.P., Jean Crowder. We are happy to answer any questions that you may have, Mr. David Brown can be reached at 250 245 2809 or daveandsuebrown@shaw.ca.

Yours sincerely,

David Brown
3077 Quennell Road

Susan Brown
3077 Quennell Road

Frances Lasser
3048 Quennell Road

James A. Russell
3048 Quennell Road

cc: Hon. Jean Crowder, MP, Mr. George DaPont, Deputy Minister of Health, Office of Controlled Substances, Health Canada