

REGIONAL DISTRICT OF NANAIMO
DISTRICT 69 RECREATION COMMISSION
ADDENDUM

Thursday, April 19, 2018

2:00 P.M.

Oceanside Place

This meeting will be recorded

Pages

5. CORRESPONDENCE

- | | | |
|------|---|---|
| *5.5 | M. Sluyter, Ravensong Patron to B. Veenhof, RDN Chair, re: D69 Swimming Pool | 2 |
| *5.6 | B. Girard, D. Sharp, Ravensong Patrons to B.Veenhof, RDN Chair, re: Swimming Pool Upgrade | 3 |

From:
Subject: District 69 Swimming Pool
Date: April 11, 2018 at 11:24:17 AM PDT
To: <bill.veenhof@shaw.ca>

Hi Bill,

I wish to add my plea for another pool to the many you have no doubt already received. I have lived in your neighbourhood (off Horne Lake Road) for 26 years and have been swimming at Ravensong since it was built mostly with the Ravensong Master's Swim Club but sometimes on my own and sometimes with the group of swimmers from BC Seniors' Games....though we can rarely get pool time there so we go to Courtenay or Nanaimo instead. At one time I tried joining the Aquafit group and was a member of their Swim Buddies but found it so crowded in the water and in the change rooms that I gave up that idea. The Master's Club has tried since I joined them to change our evening swim times to an earlier time...say 7 or 7:30 to encourage more swimmers to come out but that has never been possible due to other user groups needing it. In short no matter which group you wish to swim with, the pool times are inconvenient and/or overcrowded. Our kids swim team, the Ravensong Breakers has sent swimmers to Provincials and Nationals annually for many years but does not have a home pool adequate for a swim meet....such a shame! .

It is high time that our area with so many people, young and old, wanting a healthy lifestyle has a swim facility that provides for their needs. Let's spend our money keeping people healthy!

And that requires an additional swim tank NOT a cosmetic face lift for the current pool that was done on the last refurbishing.

Please listen to our plea! It feels like no one is listening to those who use the pool the most.

Mary Sluyter

From:

Subject: swimming pool upgrade

Date: April 17, 2018 at 10:07:04 AM PDT

To: <bill.veenhof@shaw.ca>

Cc: "mayor@qualicumbeach.com", <mayor@parksville.ca>

Dear Mr. Veenhof

Re: Pool upgrade, RDN Recreation plan, PQB News April 17: It seems that the RDN has decided to expand the Ravensong Aquatic Centre instead of building a new pool in Parksville. Is this a wise, forward- thinking decision?

The RDN consultant stated that a second facility is not warranted until the area population reaches 60-70,000. The 2016 census places the Oceanside population at 65,500. Our population is increasing rapidly and given the draw this area has for active seniors (oldest demographic in Canada) we feel that a second pool is a reasonable option. Why not keep Ravensong as it is and build a new pool in Parksville, a community which is experiencing rapid growth? We encourage the RDN to think ahead. Oceanside will continue to grow and a Parksville pool will become inevitable. Why not take the initiative and build it now rather than "making-do" with an addition to Ravensong? RDN residents are currently driving long distances to access a pool facility. Pools in both Parksville and Qualicum Beach will mean fairer pool access to residents from Bowser to Nanoose.

We see problems ahead: the proposal to add two lanes to Ravensong will do little to ease the crowding so evident at our facility, and the pool would have to be closed for construction.

We ask the RDN to build a new pool in Parksville to better serve all Oceanside residents.

Bertrand Girard and Diane Sharp