

December 12, 2014

Honourable Mary Polak
Minister of Environment
PO Box 9047, STN PROV GOVT
Victoria, BC V8W 9E2

Dear Minister Polak:

The Westside communities would like to take the opportunity to update you on the progress we have made since our last correspondence with you.

On October 8, 2014 the Core Area Liquid Waste Management Committee (CALWMC) of the Capital Regional District (CRD) enabled municipalities to proceed with developing alternative options for wastewater treatment and resource recovery. Five (5) Westside communities - Esquimalt, View Royal, Colwood and Langford, and the Songhees Nation -have formed the Westside Wastewater Treatment and Resource Recovery Select Committee to fulfil that direction. (Terms of Reference are attached).

Under the direction of the Select Committee the participants have initiated Westside Solutions – a project designed to evaluate options and recommend site(s) for potential liquid waste treatment and resource recovery facilities for the Westside communities as a conceptual amendment to the Capital Regional District’s Liquid Waste Management Plan, which will ultimately result in a final plan amendment.

Critical to the success of this project is meaningful public engagement to developing the solution. To meet that objective the Westside Solutions Project will need to provide:

- Clear and concise information regarding the issue and possible solutions and make it readily available to the public
- Delivery of a thorough evaluation of net benefits, innovative and workable technologies for proposed treatment facility(s)
- Meaningful engagement and consultation of Westside residents and businesses in option development
- Delivery of an economically and environmentally viable solution for Westside wastewater treatment.

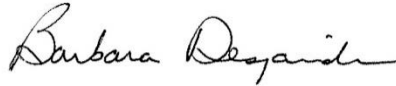
Our first step in achieving our goals is to host a series of public discussion sessions, or open houses, in every community on the west side. Citizens will be presented with information basic to wastewater

treatment and invited to provide input through a survey. These sessions will have information for participants to review, and there will be professional Westside Solutions staff available to listen to comments and answer questions.

Concurrent to these sessions, the same information will be made available online, in public venues (i.e. recreation centres) and through local community and business associations. We will also be conducting an industry survey to ascertain what new and innovative technologies may be available and successfully implemented in meeting our wastewater treatment needs.

It is our objective to collect and analyze the information gathered from both processes and synthesize them further to a more focused conversation with our citizens, technical experts and officials from your Ministry. We will provide you a further update as this project unfolds.

We fully appreciate what a significant job lays before us, however we believe that we are now in a good position to move forward by; engaging the citizens of the west side, identifying innovations that will meet both environmental and economic objectives, and ultimately implementing a wastewater treatment plan that fulfils our commitments.



Barb Desjardins

Co-chair

Westside Wastewater Treatment and
Resource Recovery Select Committee



Carol Hamilton

Co-Chair

Westside Wastewater Treatment and
Resource Recovery Select Committee