

Cultus Lake Community Association
4165 Columbia Valley Road
Cultus Lake, BC
V2R 5B5
March 10, 2008

Honorable Ida Chong
Minister of Community Services
Room 323
Parliament Buildings
Victoria, BC V8V 1X4

Dear Minister Chong,

You have received a number of letters concerning the future of Cultus Lake Park. This communication has been prompted by your Ministry stopping the process whereby the Cultus Lake Park Act was to be rescinded and a village created. This process, begun over 4 years ago, was the outcome of a consensus between the Park Board and the City of Chilliwack that village status was the preferred means of resolving the governance and related issues facing Cultus Lake Park. Communication with your government during the past 3 years gave every indication that the goal of village status was attainable in a reasonable length of time.

We are now writing to join our voices with those of the Park Board and the City – asking how we might proceed since the issues which prompted our initial concerns remain unresolved and, indeed, become more pressing as time passes.

Recently Mayor Hames of Chilliwack indicated a renewed interest in extending Chilliwack's boundaries to include Cultus Lake as the Cultus Lake land was given to the city many years ago. He discussed this interest with the Cultus Lake Community Association Executive and the Cultus Lake Park Board in January.

Given all that has transpired, our Community Association is convinced that the governance and related issues facing Cultus Lake Park must be resolved in a timely fashion. Direction from your Ministry is essential and we urgently request that you provide the necessary direction and authority for resolving the issues.

We are advocating no particular option; however, we are concerned to see that there is a process of decision making that is open to public scrutiny and questions. We are committed to working with the Board and the City to ensure that all stakeholders understand what is being considered. We also believe that it is imperative that information be presented in a manner which is credible and which provides residents and park users with opportunities for reflection, questions and providing input.

Many people have worked very hard over the past four years to resolve the Park issues. We urge you to respect this work and to provide the direction which will allow us to

create a solution that will protect the diverse interests at stake and that will protect this beautiful park for the more than 2 million visitors that come each year.

We look forward to hearing from you.

Sincerely,

Dave Clyne
[President, Cultus Lake Community Association]

cc Mayor Clint Hames, Chilliwack City Hall
Grant Sanborn, Chair, Cultus Lake Park Board