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Date: Thu, Nov 19, 2015 at 4:44 PM
Subject: Re: Island View Beach Regional Park
To: directorjdf <directorjdf@crd.bc.ca>
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Hello Mike, it is good to hear your voice of reason again. You've been on the Parks Committee for at least three terms, you know the history at Island View, and you are the only Director who took the time to walk the park with us (and there is Colin who looked at our records). Director Price is Acting Chair, and Mike Walton is GM Parks, and either could postpone the meeting, but you are a straight shooter and if you will listen to me now and then speak your mind one way or another to the Directors, that will do for me.

For 5 years Mike, we have been sounding the alarm about the incredible goings on in CRD Parks regarding Island View Beach, and every time Susan or someone would say "*tch tch, lets put it behind us and move on*". Just as you're doing to us today.

This was supposed to be the year when Parks finally produced a true, factual environmental report on the park – what can be so hard about that? - the CRD has owned the place for 50 years and it's been studied to death. Despite all the hype, there really isn't that much unique down there, and nothing that needs new protection from park visitors.

But in January out pops extraordinary claims from Parks of huge numbers of species at risk, written up as if they are in the park, but finally admitted to be mostly sea birds that never set foot in the park, so far out to sea you need a powerful telescope to see them, but written up in CRD jargonese as being "immediately adjacent" to the park. 3 new species are claimed to be "confirmed resident" in the park, yet an expert hired by Parks last year reported to Parks that two of them are not there. Did Parks take those species off the list? No, they suppressed the expert's inconvenient report instead. It only came to light because I had seen the expert working there last year and asked where his report was.

Mike, you say we feel the information is flawed. Well we do, but all we did was to ask the CRD repeatedly over the last 9 months to show us the evidence to support their claim those species are there. *Shouldn't you and the other Parks Directors be asking the same thing?* Central Saanich

Council asked for evidence and it wasn't given to them. It hasn't been given to us either. We even filed an FOI request in July for this evidence and it hasn't been produced. *Why won't CRD Parks show us the proof Mike – could it be there is no proof?*

That meeting scheduled for Saturday is to come up with elements for a new park plan based on the CRD's environmental report that Parks will not show the proof for. Mike - *What if those species we have asked about are not there?* The CRD can hold the meeting, but it won't stop us asking, and one day the Information & Privacy Commissioner will be knocking at Parks door, and the CRD will not be able to say no to her. What if she determines the species were never "*confirmed resident*" at Island View, but the CRD have held their Saturday meeting and brought in a new park bylaw based on what the Commissioner says was false data? And then the Commissioner finds all the correspondence where we asked for proof, and where Central Saanich asked for proof. And then she finds all the messages we sent to you Directors telling you that Parks would not produce proof of their claims, and instead of making reasonable inquiry you Directors said "*who cares, we're tired of this*", and held your Saturday meeting?

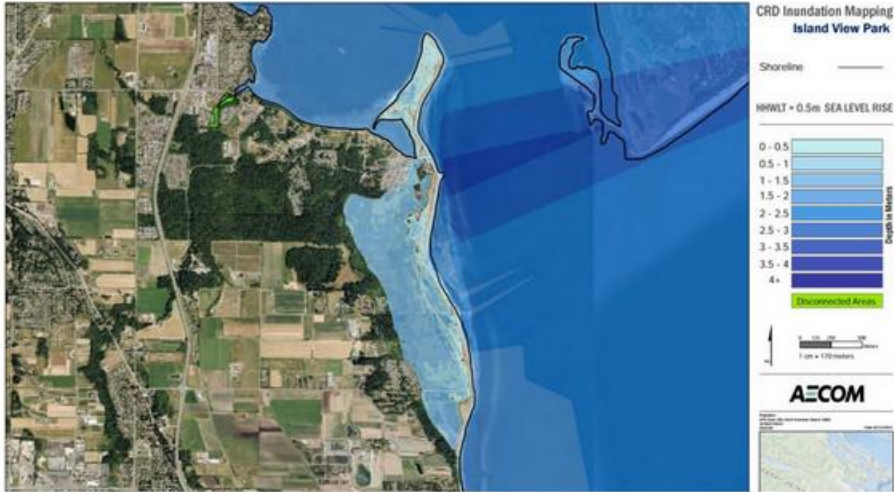
Mike, thousands of people in the Capital Region may have their use of Island View restricted on the basis of environmental claims. We did not spring this on you at the last moment – we have been asking for the proof for 9 months. It is Parks who have run out the clock, relying on past experience that the CRD Directors will do nothing.

You are an honest man who probably should not be a politician – will you say, "*tch tch, lets put it behind us and have the Saturday meeting*". Or will you look the other Directors in the eye and say "*You know, he's right. It's our report. It could affect a lot of people and we owe it to them to make sure our report is accurate before we have a meeting on it!*"

There's one last thing Mike, and this is so clear cut it will make the decision easy for you and the other Directors. There were two issues we raised as you know. The first, that Parks had not produced proof of their environmental claims. The second, that despite instruction from the Ministry of the Environment, Parks had not done a study on the impact of climate change on the Park. Well, we found out last night that there was a sea level study done by the CRD for the whole of the Capital Region and released last month, and somehow Parks didn't think to mention it. And that report says that Island View Beach will be completely under water in 35 years. That means of course that in a much shorter time it will be flooded on a regular basis during storms and become increasingly unuseable.

This is on par with Parks goose cull where it took 5 people to break the neck of a goose and call it a cervical adjustment. Now Parks is forging resolutely ahead, at public expense, intent on a park plan for a park that soon won't exist. This will be a new low, even for the CRD.

This is the CRD forecast for Island View Beach for 2050. You can see more details on our web site at <http://www.friendsofislandviewbeach.com/sea-level-rise-2050.html>



While the final CRD report was released in September, these maps must have been known by Parks months ago – perhaps even when the Parks environmental assessment was being shown to the public, yet it was never disclosed.

So what do you think Mike – shall we go ahead with a public meeting on Saturday and make earnest decisions with unproved data, for a park that soon won't exist?

Or might it be more valuable to decide first if Island View Beach should be saved.

I trust you Mike. What would you do?

Jason