

Jason Austin
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Saanichton, BC V8M 1W5

November 9, 2016

Delivered by hand to the Township of Esquimalt Offices

CRD Board Chair, Barb Desjardines;

Dear Chair Desjardines:

Re: CRD Parks and Island View Beach Regional Park

This is to inform you it is my belief that an independent, impartial inquiry will find that the CRD knowingly and deliberately misled the public in its presentations regarding Island View Beach, including, but not limited to:

- Putting before the public a Ministry of Environment Terrestrial Ecosystem Mapping report the CRD knew to be seriously flawed and unsuitable
 - Changing the legend on that MoE TEM report to hide the obvious flaws
 - Publishing that altered TEM report as if it was the original, without disclosing it had been altered by the CRD
 - Exaggerating the accuracy and precision of the TEM report when the CRD knew it was not done to a standard suitable, or intended to be used, for land use planning decisions
- Withholding critical reports from the public
 - The AECOM report received by the CRD in January 2015, that indicated Island View Beach Regional Park will be inundated by rising sea levels by 2050
 - Fairbairns 2014, the only report commissioned by the CRD for species at risk plants in the Park
- Including data produced by Camosun College that it knew to be incomplete and therefore misleading
- Making claims about the construction of a berm at the park that it had no basis in truth to make
- Making exaggerated and false claims about the mosquito drainage ditches in the park
- Making exaggerated and untruthful claims about species at risk in the park, and claiming that these came from information provided by the BC Conservation Data Centre.

It is also my belief that an independent, impartial inquiry will find that the CRD broke significant commitments made to the public by the CRD Board and the CRD Regional Parks Committee about the conduct of this Island View public consultation process.

And it is my belief that an independent inquiry will find that the 2015 CRD Board and senior management, were warned repeatedly through 2015 of these problems, and were negligent in failing to take reasonable inquiry or to take any action to safeguard the public.

Finally, it is my belief an independent inquiry will conclude the CRD process through 2015-2016 regarding Island View Beach Regional Park lacked procedural fairness, and as a consequence the public were denied the opportunity to prepare informed, thoughtful and rational responses to the CRD proposals.

I request that you refer this matter to the Ombudsperson and the Auditor General for Local Government for independent impartial inquiry, and that the CRD does not proceed further with any proposed park management plan for Island View Beach Regional Park until the independent impartial inquiry is concluded.

Sincerely,

Jason Austin