

Chris Moehr: 4545 William Head Road

I would like to speak to a few items tonight in the context of the ongoing discussion with respect our 'Buffer Lands'. In light of the number of phone calls and e-mails I have received over the past three days, I feel it is fair to say that I am speaking on behalf of the APRM.

I have a number of questions that I hope you will address when you get to Agenda item#... I will start by saying that it is good to finally see the Recommendations Report of the Buffer Land Working Group, despite its length. There are, however, some leanings/discrepancies made within this document that are at odds with the direction taken by the Working Group members at their last public meeting. These are: a perceived urgency to down-zone the Buffer lands to Park, i.e., ASAP. Further, at the public working group session, only one member of the group expressed interest in engaging the CRD in some sort of management/partnership agreement, others at the table appeared quite horrified at the concept. I suggest that this reaction is quite understandable given that CRD Parks focus with respect to 'Parks' is and always has been toward 'human access and use' – hardly a surprise given that their Parks Acquisition Fund is supported by resident taxes. And at this point in time there is little interest in broadening out their mandate. My question to you is where did this change of direction with respect to the CRD come from and what is the basis for it?

With regard to a fast 'down-zone' of the land in question: fine, it is a clear demonstration of intent. But for Pete's sake, and I have sung this song at least 4 times before, do not do this in the

absence of an arm's length, independent appraisal of the current day value of these lands. This, I can assure you from first-hand input from the CRD themselves, would be the first item on their agenda, or other more likely pertinent players. To reiterate, to the best of my knowledge the offer that APRM made to fund or help fund such an appraisal, still stands. You are of course free to take on this task independently – just please do it in the interests of Metchosin.

Last bit – When and how do the successful folks working on the Bilston Creek Corridor come into this picture? – I believe that we have all learned based on previous local, land use issues, a win is much more likely to happen if everyone is on the same page and working together.

Thank you for your time and attention.

Sincerely,

Chris Moehr