

Association for the Protection of Rural Metchosin,
#2-4401 William Head Road,
RR#1, Victoria, BC. V9C 3Y6
www.metchosinaprm.org

February 11, 2021

Mayor and Council
4450 Happy Valley Road
Victoria, BC V9C 3Z3

Dear Mayor Ranns and Council:

Re: Coastal Invasive Species Committee and holly eradication in Metchosin parks

I am writing on behalf of the Association for the Protection of Rural Metchosin to support your recent decision to allow the Coastal Invasive Species Committee work crew to use a single tree herbicide treatment to eradicate holly from Metchosin parks.

Our own Metchosin Invasive Species Cooperative has been working hard to uproot holly in our parks using hand tools. Several work parties have been organized and significant progress has been made. Councillor Little has been a valued participant in this effort.

Holly is a resilient species that will put out new shoots from cut stumps. The only practical way to kill plants that cannot otherwise be uprooted is the judicious and safe application of a herbicide. The APRM does not normally advocate the use of herbicides. We acknowledge that it was a difficult decision for you to make while applauding you for making the right call in this case.

Holly is invading roadsides, private properties and CRD Parks throughout our community. The next step will be to take action on our roadsides, and to encourage landowners and CRD Parks to do likewise.

Sincerely,

Jay Shukin
President, Association for the Protection of Rural Metchosin

CC: APRM Executive (Chris Moehr, Kathleen Zimmerman, Rachel French de Mejia, Ken Farquharson, Mark Atherton)