

**Association for the Protection of Rural Metchosin**

#1-4401 William Head Road, RR1, Victoria, BC, V9C 3Y6

Avtar Sundher,

March 3, 2020

Director of Operations,

Agricultural Land Commission,

Burnaby BC

Dear Sir,

Re: [REDACTED] property, ALC file not known

As your staff are to visit the Cosburn site at [REDACTED] Sooke Road on March 5, the APRM would like to draw your attention to a nearby site where a piece of ALR land has been used as a commercial fill site with no attempt to convert to agricultural use as proposed by the owner.

The above site is an irregular lot with frontage on both Sooke and Kangaroo Roads. On June 2, 2017 the District of Metchosin issued a permit to the owner to place 2000m<sup>3</sup> of fill on the ALR lands fronting Kangaroo Road nominally to create a pasture, the maximum depth of fill to be 6m. The District of Metchosin has advised that the ALC agreed to this fill in a phone call with ALC staff.

Fill placement proceeded until it was encroaching on the Veitch Creek wetlands, at which point it was brought to the attention of the Ministry of Environment who issued a stop work order.

Since then no work has been done to create a pasture on the fill and casual inspection shows that the fill contains road asphalt pieces and household waste.

In the opinion of the APRM this is an abuse of ALR land. As Metchosin has a relatively small area of such land we are very anxious that the ALR lands within the community remain productive.

We strongly request that your staff also make an inspection of this site to determine if the work done meets ALC requirements, and, if not, what remedial measures are necessary.

If an inspection is made, we request that a copy be provided to the District of Metchosin and the APRM.

Yours truly,

cc District of Metchosin

Attachments -map and permit

K.G.Farquharson Vice Pres, APRM