



## *Sechelt Community Associations Forum*

c/o 5916 Skookumchuk Road, Sechelt, BC, V0N 3A4

On the web at [www.sechelt.net](http://www.sechelt.net)

**Communicating to assist the District of Sechelt and all who live in it.**

July 1, 2007

Mayor Cam Reid  
District of Sechelt,  
2<sup>nd</sup> Floor, 5795 Cowrie Street  
Sechelt, B.C. V0N 3A3

Dear Mayor Reid,

Re: The meeting between the Community Associations and Mayor and Council of June 4<sup>th</sup>, 2007

First and of most importance, the members were most appreciative of your attendance and the time you committed particularly since we understand you had to hurry from a ferry to attend. All feel strongly and positively that they would like the meetings to continue and that as familiarity grows we will overcome some of the start up hiccups. We feel that the meetings will contribute to the overall wellbeing of the District of Sechelt and all who live here.

There was considerable consternation regarding the attendance of Mr. Brown at this meeting. The understanding was that it had been agreed to hold the meetings without the presence of staff unless requested. And if staff were to attend, the chair would be consulted and the other members would then be advised. This was set out at the March 12 meeting at which Mr. Brown was in attendance and in the written record of that meeting. The lack of consultation placed the chair in a rather difficult and unnecessary position.

While most members of the associations understand the value of having the CAO attend these meetings they did want to try just "community to council" for awhile. Mr. Brown is the individual that assists in developing solutions but he is not, however, the elected official that hears the concerns of the community and determines its future. There is a feeling that vetting everything through a bureaucrat tends to colour or narrow the discussion. We want to hear primarily what our elected representatives have to say on matters.

The members would like to reserve the right to meet with their Mayor and Council without the distraction of the CAO or other staff, at least for a portion of the future meetings. We are more than willing to develop a protocol that meets the middle ground and is suitable to all parties.

The members understand that some things need referral back to the office, and if you review the agreed minutes from the initial March 12 meeting you will see the Agreed Process, Items 7 & 8, directly address this. This allows an opportunity for proper research to be done in preparing the answers thus avoiding misunderstandings through poorly phrased responses.

The members expressed disappointment that only two councillors were in attendance, especially considering the three months advanced notice. We sincerely hope that more will appreciate the value of meeting and discussing issues with the community associations. We do like to hear the opinions of our elected representatives.

We look forward to the next meeting on September 20<sup>th</sup> at a venue of your choosing.

Sincerely,  
Sechelt Community Associations Forum

Per:

Douglas Smith, Chair

SCAF

Page 1 of 1